

EMPLOYMENT, INCOME AND HOUSING DIVISION

Divisional Goals

- To enhance the affordability and choice of adequate housing for Manitobans, particularly those of low to moderate incomes and those with special needs.
- To help Manitobans in regaining their independence by supporting their transition from income assistance to employment.
- To ensure that no Manitoban lacks the goods and services essential to health and well-being, by providing income assistance to Manitobans in need.

Divisional Responsibilities

- Provides policy coordination, direction and support for the department's employment support, financial assistance and housing programs.
- Provides employability assessments, personal job planning, work incentives and other supports to assist Manitobans to enter or re-enter and remain in the labour market.
- Provides income assistance to persons in need.
- Provides essential drug, dental and optical services and support to Employment and Income Assistance participants and children in care.
- Provides financial supplements to low-income persons 55 years of age and over and to low-income families with children.
- Provides links to training and employment opportunities, support for child care services for active job searchers, job readiness assessments, and partnerships with agencies helping people on income assistance reduce dependence on government programs.
- Provides operational assistance to support not-for-profit housing and the delivery of housing grant and subsidy payments to low-income renters under shelter assistance programs.
- Provides coordination and support services to the Manitoba Housing Authority, the Affordable Housing Initiative, and the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative.

The division consists of the following major areas:

- Strategic Initiatives and Program Support
- Employment and Income Assistance Programs
- The Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation, including:
 - Housing Programs
 - Corporate Services
- The Manitoba Housing Authority

STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND PROGRAM SUPPORT

Objectives

- To provide executive direction, management, coordination and support for the programs and services delivered and administered under the Employment, Income and Housing Division.

Responsibilities

- Provides policy and program direction to develop, manage and deliver the Employment, Income and Housing programs and services.
- Provides program analysis and overpayment recovery for Employment, Income and Housing programs.

09-2A Strategic Initiatives and Program Support

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2004/05 \$000	FTE	Estimate 2004/05 \$000	Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
Total Salaries and Employee Benefits	369.9	6.00	377.5	(7.6)	
Total Other Expenditures	68.3		68.8	(0.5)	

Activities/Highlights in 2004/05

- Ensured effective direction was provided to the division, the Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation and the Manitoba Housing Authority.
- Assisted in the ongoing development of services which are consistent with the policy and program objectives of the division and the department.
- Coordinated Integrated Service Delivery activities related to housing programs and services, and to the provision of information regarding housing-related programs through community access offices.

EMPLOYMENT AND INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Objectives

- To provide effective leadership, direction, fiscal management and support to ensure the delivery of Income Assistance programs, Building Independence projects and Income Supplement programs in accordance with the relevant legislation and government policy.
- To develop and implement initiatives for Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) participants to assist Manitobans in regaining their financial independence from income assistance by making the transition to work.

The branch consists of the following areas:

- Finance and Administration – Responsible for program budgeting and caseload statistics for the EIA Programs (EIA, Social Allowances Health Services, 55 PLUS and the Child Related Income Support Program), and administrative support for the EIA Programs Branch.
- Policy and Program Development – Responsible for the development, maintenance and interpretation of legislation for the EIA programs; policy and program development; new initiatives, such as the implementation of the Rural and Northern One-Tier initiative; and public communications, such as program brochures, fact sheets and the EIA policy manual.
- Support Services and Employment Development – Responsible for program standards and quality assurance; negotiation of contracts with associations providing health, employment and other services to EIA participants; information technology; and training and employment initiatives under the Building Independence strategy.

Responsibilities

Employment and Income Assistance (EIA)

- The major objectives of the EIA program are:
 - to assist Manitobans in regaining their financial independence by helping them to make the transition from income assistance to work; and
 - to provide income assistance to Manitobans in need.
- Financial assistance is provided to persons in need who are eligible for assistance under *The Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) Act*, including single parents, aged persons, persons requiring the protection of a crisis intervention facility, and children whose parents are unable to support them, as well as non-disabled single persons, childless couples and two-parent families. Eligibility may also be granted under special case consideration at the discretion of the Minister. *The EIA Act* also provides eligibility for assistance to persons with disabilities who are in need. Information on these participants is reported under the department's Services for Persons with Disabilities Division.
- Eligibility for assistance is also determined by a needs test, in which the amount of a household's financial resources is compared to the total costs of its basic necessities as defined in *The EIA Act* and Regulations. Certain items and income are not included in the calculation of financial resources.
- EIA provides employability assessments, personal job planning, work incentives and other supports to assist Manitobans in entering, re-entering or remaining in the labour force.

- EIA provided assistance to an average monthly caseload of 15,677 in 2004/05, an increase of 6.3 per cent from the previous year. The increase is primarily in the general assistance category, as a result of the implementation of a one-tier system of income assistance in rural and northern Manitoba.
- During 2004/05, 13.0 per cent of the income assistance caseload made use of the work incentive provisions of the program.

Employment and Income Assistance
Average Monthly Number of Cases and Participants by Category
 2002/03 to 2004/05

Category	2002/03		2003/04		2004/05*	
	Cases	Participants	Cases	Participants	Cases	Participants
Children	80	104	74	99	65	91
Single Parents	9,195	27,341	9,246	27,699	9,306	28,082
Aged	160	218	140	193	125	173
Crisis Facility Cases	54	132	55	132	60	141
General Assistance*	5,544	9,634	5,199	9,130	6,081	10,946
Special Cases	43	52	36	45	40	52
Total	15,076	37,481	14,750	37,298	15,677	39,485

* The provincial EIA program assumed responsibility for Municipal Assistance in rural and northern Manitoba as of June 2004. Individuals who received Municipal Assistance in April and May 2004 are included in the EIA general assistance category.

Employment and Income Assistance
Expenditures by Category (\$000)
 2002/03 to 2004/05

Category	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05*
Children	\$302.6	\$285.9	\$265.7
Single Parents	95,817.9	99,337.8	103,128.4
Aged	712.2	654.0	648.3
Crisis Facility Cases	363.0	498.9	396.2
General Assistance*	34,801.5	33,617.6	40,308.5
Special Cases	1,439.0	1,463.2	1,494.0
Other	1,223.0	472.6	(23.8)
Total	\$134,659.2	\$136,330.0	\$146,217.3

* The provincial EIA program assumed responsibility for Municipal Assistance in rural and northern Manitoba as of June 2004. Expenditures for individuals who received Municipal Assistance in April and May 2004 are included in the EIA general assistance category.

Employment and Income Assistance
Employment Income
 2002/03 to 2004/05

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Average Monthly Number of Participants Reporting Employment Income			
Single Parents	1,413	1,342	1,246
General Assistance	632	591	799
Total	2,045	1,933	2,045

Employment and Income Assistance
Percentage of Cases on Work Incentive Program
 2002/03 to 2004/05

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Single Parents	15.4%	14.0%	13.4%
General Assistance	11.4%	11.0%	13.1%
Total Caseload	13.9%	13.4%	13.0%

Municipal Assistance

- The provincial EIA program assumed responsibility for Municipal Assistance on June 1, 2004. Prior to that time, Municipal Assistance was administered by municipalities outside the City of Winnipeg, in accordance with *The EIA Act* and *The Municipal Act*. Municipal Assistance was provided to persons who were not eligible for assistance from EIA, i.e., non-disabled single persons, childless couples and two-parent families. The EIA Programs Branch administered the cost-sharing of municipal assistance provided by municipalities, and provided interpretation and support to municipalities in their delivery of municipal assistance. Municipalities will continue to contribute to the cost of providing income assistance through an annual financial contribution, and the identification and promotion of employment opportunities in their communities.

Municipal Assistance Cases and Provincial Share of Expenditures 2002/03 to 2004/05

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05*
Average Monthly Number of Cases	1,140	1,150	0
Average Monthly Number of Participants	1,965	1,941	0
Provincial Share of Expenditures (\$000)			
Financial Assistance	\$4,401.5	\$4,621.2	\$0.0
Welfare Services	380.6	319.4	0.0
Total	\$4,782.1	\$4,940.6	\$0.0

* *The provincial EIA program assumed responsibility for Municipal Assistance in rural and northern Manitoba as of June 2004. Individuals who received Municipal Assistance in April and May 2004 are reported under the EIA general assistance category.*

Health Services

- The Health Services Program provides essential drug, dental and optical services and support to EIA participants and children in care.
- Supplies and services are generally provided in accordance with approved fee schedules negotiated with professional health organizations. These agreements specify the types of goods and services provided, eligibility criteria, level of payment and related billing procedures.
- Health Services provided benefits to an average monthly caseload of 17,627 in 2004/05. Of these cases, 5,687 (32.3 per cent) were children in care.

Health Services Caseload and Expenditures* 2002/03 to 2004/05

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Average Monthly Number of Cases	17,729	17,062	17,627
Average Monthly Number of Participants	36,120	34,906	35,645
Expenditures (\$000)			
Dental	\$2,282.1	\$2,361.3	\$2,514.4
Drugs	6,734.1	7,304.4	7,613.0
Optical	300.3	332.1	311.1
Total	\$9,316.5	\$9,997.8	\$10,438.5

* Includes children in care but excludes EIA participants with a disability. Information on Health Services provided to persons with disabilities is reported under the department's Services for Persons with Disabilities Division.

Income Supplement Programs

- The Employment and Income Assistance Programs Branch administers two Income Supplement Programs for low-income Manitobans. 55 PLUS - A Manitoba Income Supplement provides quarterly supplements to low-income persons 55 years of age and over. The Child Related Income Support Program (CRISP) provides monthly supplements to low-income families with children.

55 PLUS – A Manitoba Income Supplement

The 55 PLUS program has two components. The Senior Component is for persons who are eligible to receive certain levels of benefits under the federal Old Age Security programs. The Junior Component is for low-income persons 55 years of age and over who are not eligible for federal Old Age Security benefits, and who are not in receipt of EIA benefits. Eligibility for the Senior Component is determined from a person's application for the federal Guaranteed Income Supplement. An annual application is necessary for the Junior Component.

During 2004/05, 55 PLUS benefits were provided to an average of 12,143 individuals per quarter. The majority (68.2 per cent) of these participants were single.

55 PLUS – A Manitoba Income Supplement Caseload and Expenditures 2002/03 to 2004/05

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Average Quarterly Number of Participants			
Senior Component			
Single*	7,197	7,368	7,029
Married**	2,861	2,852	2,747
Total	10,058	10,220	9,776
Junior Component			
Single*	1,449	1,354	1,254
Married**	1,265	1,167	1,113
Total	2,714	2,521	2,367
Program Total	12,772	12,741	12,143
Total Expenditures (\$000)			
Senior Component	\$3,621.1	\$3,681.2	\$3,526.5
Junior Component	1,247.5	1,151.7	1,090.6
Total	\$4,868.6	\$4,832.9	\$4,617.1

* Single participants include those who have never been married, as well as those who are no longer married (i.e., widowed, divorced, or separated).

** For married participants, in some cases both members of a couple receive 55 PLUS and in other cases only one spouse is a participant.

Child Related Income Support Program (CRISP)

CRISP provides benefits to low-income Manitoba families who are not in receipt of EIA benefits, whose total family income is within specified levels, and whose net family assets are \$200,000 or less. Benefits are determined by total family income from the previous tax year, although estimated income for the current tax year may be used when there has been a significant change in the applicant's situation. A new application is required for each benefit year, which runs from July 1 to June 30.

During 2004/05, CRISP benefits were provided to an average of 1,093 families per month, representing 2,477 children. Of these families, 57.1 per cent were headed by single parents.

Child Related Income Support Program (CRISP) Caseload and Expenditures 2002/03 to 2004/05

	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Average Monthly Number of Cases			
Single-Parent Family	748	687	624
Two-Parent Family	483	466	469
Total	1,231	1,153	1,093
Average Monthly Number of Children			
	2,690	2,558	2,477
Total Expenditures (\$000)	\$938.0	\$919.8	\$839.1

Building Independence

- Building Independence supports partnerships that promote job opportunities for EIA participants. It also supports projects that enhance the skills and employability of specific target groups.
- Building Independence initiatives are designed to:
 - reduce barriers to employment by providing tools, such as child care and voice mail services;
 - provide job readiness assessments;
 - provide links to training and employment; and
 - support agencies to work in partnership with the EIA Program.

Building Independence Number of Participants 2002/03 to 2004/05

Program	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Employment Partnerships			
Opportunities for Employment	275	315	269
School Crossing Guard	8	8	8
Wage Subsidy			
Education, Training and Youth ¹	126	78	64
Rural Jobs Project	12	13	5
Employment Enhancement			
Community Home Services Program	312	336	242
Manitoba Conservation Corps (positions)	2	0	0
Northern Affairs Project (positions)	7	6	21
Steps to Independence	173	325	259
Job Centre, EIA Intake (referrals)	4,066	4,726	3,868
Connect 2 Voice Mail ²	973	1,000	900
Individual Development Accounts (IDA)	11	18	16
North End CRC – P.A.T.H. Centre	112	104	71

¹ Information supplied by the Department of Advanced Education and Training.

² Includes income assistance participants and low-income individuals.

09-2B Employment and Income Assistance Programs

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2004/05 \$000	FTE	Estimate 2004/05 \$000	Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
Salaries and Employee Benefits	1,088.8	18.00	1,081.0	7.8	
Other Expenditures	1,705.8		1,732.2	(26.4)	
Employment and Income Assistance*	146,217.3		145,226.1	991.2	1
Health Services*	10,438.5		12,430.2	(1,991.7)	2
Income Supplements*	5,456.2		5,497.1	(40.9)	
Building Independence*	2,084.0		2,972.8	(888.8)	3

* *Financial assistance expenditures. Employment and Income Assistance expenditures include the provincial share of Municipal Assistance expenditures for April and May 2004.*

1. The variance was primarily due to a higher than expected cost per case.
2. The variance was primarily due to a decrease in the cost per prescription in the Drug Program.
3. The variance was primarily due to project start-up not proceeding and lower wage subsidy recoveries.

Activities/Highlights in 2004/05

- There were two increases to the income assistance rates in 2004/05:
 - In October 2004, there was a two per cent increase in the rates for board and room for participants requiring care and supervision or living in a residential care facility, including the per diems paid to agencies that provide residential services, which are based on these rates.
 - In February 2005, there was a further 20 per cent increase in the Northern Allowance for participants in northern and remote areas of Manitoba, to assist with the high cost of healthy foods in these communities.
- On June 1, 2004, the provincial EIA program assumed responsibility for Municipal Assistance in rural and northern Manitoba. This initiative was requested by the Association of Manitoba Municipalities (AMM), shortly after the Province assumed responsibility for the delivery of income assistance in the City of Winnipeg in April 1999. A single delivery system will eliminate duplication in administration, and allow income assistance benefits and training and employment supports to be delivered in a consistent, efficient and effective manner. Municipalities will continue to contribute to the cost of providing income assistance through an annual financial contribution and the identification and promotion of employment opportunities in their communities. Plans for implementation of this initiative were developed in consultation with the AMM. EIA Programs have continued to work with the AMM in the development of processes for paying the annual financial contribution, and identifying and promoting employment opportunities.

THE MANITOBA HOUSING AND RENEWAL CORPORATION (MHRC)

Objectives

- To enhance the affordability of, and accessibility to, adequate housing for Manitobans, particularly those of low to moderate incomes or those with specialized needs.
- To maintain and improve the condition of existing housing stock.
- To stimulate and influence the activities of the housing market to the benefit of Manitobans as a whole.

Responsibilities

- As a crown corporation, operates pursuant to *The Housing and Renewal Corporation Act* and is governed by a board of directors under the provisions of the Act, with policy direction provided by government.
- Operates as the delivery arm for federal/provincial cost-shared social housing programs and other capital programming provided by the province.
- As an approved lender under the federal *National Housing Act*, issues mortgages and loans and holds assets.
- Owns all assets but is financially dependent upon government, receiving an annual transfer payment basically equal to the difference between MHRC's revenues and its expenses less federal recoveries from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). As part of the government's annual Estimates process, these dollars are voted by the Legislature to the department which, in turn, "transfers" funds to the MHRC as required. (See Appendix for MHRC Financial Statements)
- Provides subsidies for approximately 35,700 housing units developed under various federal/provincial housing programs. Approximately 13,100 housing units are managed by the Manitoba Housing Authority (MHA), an agent of the MHRC. The remaining housing units are managed by sponsor and non-profit groups.
- Provides strategic planning and the development of new housing policy, programs, initiatives and corresponding legislation and regulations; program systems support and development; standards development and quality assurance; program analysis and evaluation; and issue management.
- Coordinates the MHRC's planning activities and provides ongoing housing program development and policy analysis related to program support.
- Examines new building technologies to assess their feasibility for Manitoba home construction.
- Monitors compliance with operating agreement provisions and promotes efficient management of projects in accordance with program objectives, and recommends changes to agreements to enhance operation of programs and projects.
- Performs operational audits of non-profit or cooperative housing projects, including tenant selection, building maintenance, financial control, rent calculations, management control and board involvement.
- Conducts workshops and training sessions for non-profit and cooperative housing projects.

- Delivers and administers the federal/provincial cost-shared Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI) and the renovation and repair programs in Manitoba – Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP), Emergency Repair Program (ERP), Home Adaptations for Seniors' Independence (HASI) and Shelter Enhancement Program (SEP). Delivers the provincially funded Homeowner Emergency Loan Program (HELP).
- Provides financial assistance for benefits under the following shelter assistance programs:
 - Shelter Allowances For Elderly Renters (SAFER);
 - Shelter Allowances For Family Renters (SAFFR); and
 - School Tax Assistance for Tenants Aged 55 Plus (STAT 55+).
- Plans, organizes and evaluates corporate accounting and financial management activities including financial reporting, expenditure and revenue processing and appropriation control, federal/provincial cost-shared program reporting and claiming.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

Objectives

- To provide strategic planning and the development of new housing policies, programs and initiatives for the department.

Responsibilities

- Undertakes program analysis and evaluation, and recommends program and policy changes to better meet the objectives of the programs.
- Provides analysis, negotiation and coordination of interdepartmental and intergovernmental agreements and initiatives, as well as federal/provincial/territorial coordination and collaboration.
- Administers operating agreements with non-profit owned and/or managed housing projects.
- Oversees the development and delivery of the Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI), both in Winnipeg (through the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative) and through partnerships with municipalities and service organizations in rural communities.

The branch consists of the following areas:

- Housing Services – Provides program development, coordination, forecasting and statistical support services to the division, the MHRC and the MHA in support of strategic and operational decision-making.
- Portfolio Administration – Administers and monitors operating agreements with non-profit owned and/or managed housing projects. The area is also responsible for approximately 19,000 social housing units under non-profit, cooperative and urban native programs, and approximately 1,750 units developed under the Rural and Native Housing Program.
- Affordable Housing – Responsible for the delivery of the AHI, a five-year joint venture of the federal and provincial governments, developed to increase the supply of affordable housing rental units and new housing available in Manitoba. This will be achieved by supporting the development of new rental and homeowners units, offering repair/conversion options and providing homebuyer down payment assistance and rent supplements.

Activities/Highlights in 2004/05

Affordable Housing Initiative

The Governments of Canada and Manitoba signed Phase One of the Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI) on September 30, 2002. Under this agreement, the two levels of government will each contribute approximately \$50.78 million in federal and provincial funds to renovate or create approximately 2,500 affordable housing units. To date, construction is complete, underway or committed for over 1,900 units, which accounts for approximately \$37 million of program funding.

The delivery of the AHI in Winnipeg continued to be enhanced in 2004/05, as a result of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was signed between the Province of Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg in April 2003. Through the MOU, the City of Winnipeg will continue to provide support for affordable housing in Winnipeg over five years.

During 2004/05, the province worked with other levels of government to develop safe and affordable housing for families with low and moderate incomes and continued to work with the federal government in the negotiation of Phase Two of the AHI.

The MHRC has released two Expressions of Interest in 2003 and 2004 to solicit New Rental Supply proposals under the AHI. In addition, in November 2004, the Government of Canada, Province of Manitoba and City of Winnipeg announced an Infill Housing Program that will provide over \$1.1 million in AHI funding to support the construction of new, affordable, energy efficient homes in Winnipeg's inner city through the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative.

Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI)

The Housing Programs Branch is an active partner in the tripartite WHHI. The WHHI provides a one-stop approach for community organizations to access housing and/or homelessness programs provided by all three levels of government in the City of Winnipeg.

In 2004/05, the department continued to fund a range of programs delivered by the WHHI to address declining housing stock, homelessness and the revitalization of Winnipeg's older neighbourhoods. The WHHI delivers the provincial Neighbourhood Housing Assistance (NHA) Program in Winnipeg, which provides assistance of up to \$10,000 per unit to community-based organizations and individuals in support of locally planned and delivered initiatives for homeownership and renovation in targeted neighbourhoods. A total of \$8 million has been committed over four years to 2007, for provincial housing programs, such as the NHA, delivered by the WHHI. This funding can be provided in conjunction with assistance received under the Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP).

As at March 31, 2005, nearly \$6.0 million in NHA funding and just over \$4.0 million in RRAP funding has been committed for the WHHI targeted neighbourhoods in the City of Winnipeg.

In November 2003, Canada, Manitoba and Winnipeg renewed the MOU to extend the WHHI for an additional five years through to 2008. The renewal of the partnership continues to lead to more safe, affordable housing and programs and services to prevent or alleviate homelessness in Winnipeg.

**Summary of Neighbourhood Housing Assistance
Winnipeg, Brandon and Thompson
March 31, 2005**

Neighbourhood/ Community	Neighbourhood Housing Assistance (NHA) 1.	Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) 2.	Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI)	City / Municipal Funding	Human Resources Development Canada Funding	Total Funding	Total Number of Units	Total Number of Beds
WINNIPEG								
Lord Selkirk Park	\$ 99,400	\$ -	\$ 84,273	\$ 121,244	\$ 596,743	\$ 901,660	16	16
Point Douglas	\$ 675,002	\$ 232,474	\$ 891,558	\$ 490,665	\$ -	\$ 2,289,699	305	0
Spence	\$ 1,830,527	\$ 1,200,926	\$ 715,601	\$ 1,177,169	\$ 2,281,946	\$ 7,206,169	403	48
West Broadway	\$ 1,323,843	\$ 1,555,200	\$ 1,252,862	\$ 750,844	\$ 1,025,000	\$ 5,907,749	287	48
William Whyte	\$ 1,439,530	\$ 1,111,663	\$ 1,586,809	\$ 1,143,662	\$ -	\$ 5,281,664	421	0
Daniel McIntyre / St. Matthews	\$ 505,724	\$ 50,650	\$ 347,094	\$ 414,911	\$ -	\$ 1,318,379	167	0
Other Projects	\$ 110,000	\$ 16,000	\$ 4,205,387	\$ 2,577,581	\$ 3,076,150	\$ 9,985,118	664	25
TOTAL WINNIPEG	\$ 5,984,026	\$ 4,166,913	\$ 9,083,584	\$ 6,676,076	\$ 6,979,839	\$ 32,890,438	2263	137
Neighbourhood/ Community	Neighbourhood Housing Assistance (NHA) 1.	Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) 2.	Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI)	City / Municipal Funding	Human Resources Development Canada Funding	Total Funding	Total Number of Units	Total Number of Beds
Brandon	\$ 2,735,342	\$ 4,909,728	\$ 737,133	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ 8,732,203	643	9
Thompson	\$ 1,274,990	\$ 1,512,758	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,787,748	232	0
TOTAL BRANDON AND THOMPSON	\$ 4,010,332	\$ 6,422,486	\$ 737,133	\$ -	\$ 350,000	\$ 11,519,951	875	9
Neighbourhood/ Community	Neighbourhood Housing Assistance (NHA) 1.	Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) 2.	Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI)	City / Municipal Funding	Human Resources Development Canada Funding	Total Funding	Total Number of Units	Total Number of Beds
TOTAL	\$ 9,994,358	\$ 10,589,399	\$ 9,820,717	\$ 6,676,076	\$ 7,329,839	\$ 44,410,389	3138	146

1. The program funding totals do not include program administration fees.

2. This is total RRAP funding, which is cost shared 75 per cent federal and 25 per cent provincial.

Northern Housing Strategy

The MHRC, in partnership with northern/Aboriginal organizations, is developing a strategic approach to address the needs associated with housing in the North. The strategy is comprehensive in scope and recognizes the relationship between housing, health, education and economic development, while emphasizing the need for a community-driven approach. It is also intended to respond to common areas of need and priority in northern housing, and related partnership opportunities, as identified by northern communities and stakeholders at a Northern Housing Forum held in Thompson in May 2001.

Leaders of the partner northern/Aboriginal organizations meet periodically with the Minister of Family Services and Housing to guide the development of the Northern Housing Strategy. In addition, the MHRC continues to work with northern organizations, through a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), as Northern Housing Strategy activities are implemented.

In response to Northern Housing Forum resolutions, and to recommendations by the Northern Housing Strategy partner organizations, a Northern Model House has been constructed in Thompson, Manitoba. The Northern Model House, developed in collaboration between northern communities, northern organizations, the MHRC and Manitoba Hydro, is currently undergoing detailed monitoring and testing for a one-year period. The monitoring and testing phase was initiated during the last quarter of the 2004/05 fiscal year. The first six months of testing took place while the house was unoccupied and the remaining six months will take place with the house occupied by a family who was selected to live in the house during the monitoring and testing phase.

The MHRC is proceeding with the construction of four panelized housing units in the community of Wabowden, with the development of additional units in other selected northern communities currently in the planning stages. The Northern Build is being partially funded under the Canada/Manitoba Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI).

Shelter Allowances For Elderly Renters (SAFER)

Funded by MHRC but delivered through Provincial Services, the Shelter Allowances For Elderly Renters program provides direct monthly cash assistance to persons aged 55 and over who rent their living accommodation in the private marketplace and whose rent exceeds 25 per cent of household income. The program subsidizes between 60 per cent and 90 per cent of the portion of the eligible rent that exceeds 25 per cent of the household income. As income increases and rent decreases in proportion to income, the assistance is reduced. The maximum benefit under the program is \$170 per month.

Applicants must re-apply for benefits on an annual basis and must meet eligibility criteria. The maximum eligible income for a single renter aged 55 or older is \$1,470 per month, and the maximum claimable rent on which benefits are based is \$405. The maximum eligible income for a renting couple in which one or both person(s) are aged 55 or older is \$1,650 per month, and the maximum claimable rent on which benefits are based is \$455.

Persons in receipt of Employment and Income Assistance are not eligible for benefits under this program. Persons residing in rent-geared-to-income subsidized elderly persons' housing, rent supplement housing or personal care homes are not eligible for benefits under this program.

During the year ended March 31, 2005, 2,803 clients received benefits for total program expenditures of \$1,989.0. The following table provides program information for the past three years:

Fiscal Year	Average No. Of Recipients Per Month	No. of Active Recipients at Year End	Total No. of Recipients	Average Monthly Benefit Paid	Expenditures Total \$000
2002/03	2,709	2,566	3,232	80	2,587.4
2003/04	2,563	2,361	3,076	74	2,276.0
2004/05	2,308	2,146	2,803	72	1,989.0

Shelter Allowances For Family Renters (SAFFR)

Funded by MHRC but delivered through Provincial Services, the Shelter Allowances For Family Renters program provides direct monthly cash assistance to eligible families who rent their living accommodation in the private marketplace and whose rent exceeds 25 per cent of household income. The program subsidizes up to 90 per cent of the portion of the eligible rent that exceeds 25 per cent of the household income. As income increases and rent decreases in proportion to income, the assistance is reduced. The maximum benefit under the program is \$180 per month.

Applicants must re-apply for benefits on an annual basis and must meet eligibility criteria. To qualify for this program, there must be at least one child/dependant under 18 years of age living in the household. For a two-person household (including one adult and one child/dependant), the maximum eligible income is \$19,380 per year (\$1,615 monthly) and the maximum claimable rent is \$445. For a three-person household (including at least one child/dependant), the maximum eligible income is \$20,940 per year (\$1,745 monthly) and the maximum claimable rent is \$480. For a four-person household (including at least one child/dependant), the maximum eligible income is \$21,780 per year (\$1,815 monthly) and the maximum claimable rent \$500.

Persons in receipt of Employment and Income Assistance are not eligible for benefits under this program. Persons residing in rent-geared-to-income government-subsidized housing or rent supplement housing are not eligible for benefits under this program.

During the year ended March 31, 2005, 1,098 clients received benefits and total program expenditures were \$964.5. The following table provides program information for the past three years:

Fiscal Year	Average No. Of Recipients Per Month	No. of Active Recipients at Year End	Total No. of Recipients	Average Monthly Benefit Paid \$	Expenditures Total \$000
2002/03	540	474	945	127	824.0
2003/04	577	572	991	129	894.0
2004/05	607	543	1,098	132	964.5

School Tax Assistance for Tenants 55 Plus (STAT 55+)

The School Tax Assistance for Tenants 55 Plus Program provides an annual grant of up to \$175 to tenants aged 55 years or older, to offset the school tax portion of rental costs. The grant is payable once a year. Applications submitted during 2005 relate to rents paid during the 2004 calendar year. This program is funded by MHRC but delivered through Provincial Services on behalf of the Department of Finance. Program expenditures are recovered from the Department of Finance.

Applicants must meet eligibility criteria. Tenants aged 55 years or older whose net income is less than \$23,800 and who rented their principal residence in the private rental market during the previous calendar year are generally eligible. Pensioners who were eligible but did not receive their rebate during previous years, can apply for benefits retroactively for up to four years. Tenants living in non-profit housing for the elderly or in projects licensed under *The Elderly and Infirm Persons' Housing Act* do not qualify for benefits under this program because rents in these housing projects do not include school tax costs.

During the year ended March 31, 2005, 2,741 rebate cheques were issued (including retroactive/partial year cheques), representing an expenditure of \$463.9 for the fiscal year. The following table provides program information for the past three years:

Fiscal Year	Total Applications Received	Total No of Recipients*	Average Annual Benefit Paid \$	Expenditures Total \$000
2002/03	4,750	4,118	127	521.7
2003/04	4,503	4,033	124	497.0
2004/05	3,902	2,741	119	463.9

* Includes multiple rebates for retroactive benefits, and applications received in the previous fiscal year and paid in the current fiscal year.

Complementary Assistance Program

Funded by MHRC but delivered through Provincial Services, the Complementary Assistance Program (CAP) provides grant assistance to housing co-operatives to lower housing charges for income-tested occupants. Applicants must meet income eligibility criteria. Co-ops submit monthly statements to claim assistance on behalf of eligible clients.

While the program is closed to new applications from co-ops, CAP assistance continues to be provided to co-ops under previous commitments.

During the year ended March 31, 2005, 68 households in 10 co-ops were subsidized through the CAP. A total of \$135.8 was expended during the fiscal year. The following table provides program information for the past three years:

Fiscal Year	No. of Co-ops at Year End	No. of Recipients at Year End	Expenditures Total \$000
2002/03	10	78	190.4
2003/04	10	72	151.8
2004/05	10	68	135.8

Rent Supplement Program

Funded by MHRC but delivered through Provincial Services, the Rent Supplement Program is designed to assist low- and moderate-income families and elderly households to obtain suitable housing in the private rental sector and in non-profit housing projects. The provincial government has entered into agreements with owners/operators of private rental stock whereby the province subsidizes the difference between the approved market rental rate charged by the landlord and the rent-geared-to-income rate paid by the qualifying tenant. Subsidy costs are shared by the federal and provincial governments on a 50 per cent federal/50 per cent provincial basis for units committed pre-1986 and on a 75 per cent federal/25 per cent provincial basis for units committed post-1985.

The following table provides program information for the past three years:

Fiscal Year	Units Subsidized as at March 31	Average Monthly Supplement Paid \$	Expenditures Total \$000
2002/03	1,864	201.89	4,750.8
2003/04	1,870	236.73	4,667.5
2004/05	1,875	255.43	4,488.3

CORPORATE SERVICES

Objectives

- To ensure the corporate comptrollership function is appropriately maintained to meet the needs of the division, the MHRC and the MHA for financial control, accountability, reporting and the safeguarding and protection of financial and physical assets.
- To provide comprehensive central support services to corporate operations and branches including direction and support in financial planning, financial evaluations and protection of corporate assets, reporting control policies, process and procedures.
- To provide direction and planning for subdivision development and marketing.

Responsibilities

- Plans, organizes and evaluates corporate accounting and financial management activities including financial reporting, expenditure and revenue processing and appropriation control, cost-shared reporting and claiming.
- Establishes and provides direction on corporate financial management policies, procedures and practices.
- Advises executive management regarding emerging financial and program management issues.
- Coordinates and supports the development of the corporate estimates in support of the division, the MHRC and the MHA.
- Coordinates, monitors and reports on the corporate entities which include the MHRC, the MHA and sponsor and private non-profit groups.
- Administers the loan and mortgage portfolio.
- Supports management through the provision of analytical, consultative and evaluative advice on new departmental and corporate programs, financial proposals and ongoing operations.

Activities/Highlights in 2004/05

Mobile Home Loan Guarantee Program

The Mobile Home Loan Guarantee Program guaranteed loans made by approved lenders for the purchase of mobile homes. These guarantees allowed the lender to provide the loan at a lower interest rate and for a longer term, resulting in lower monthly payments by the borrower. This program terminated March 31, 1997.

The following table provides program information for the past three years including outstanding guarantees as at March 31, 2005.

Fiscal Year	Outstanding Guarantees	
	Total Units	Amount \$000
2002/03	47	1,133.6
2003/04	38	878.0
2004/05	30	637.4

09-2C Transfer Payments to MHRC

Expenditures by Sub-Appropriation	Actual 2004/05 \$000	FTE	Estimate 2004/05 \$000	Variance Over/(Under)	Expl. No.
Transfer Payments to MHRC	33,732.3		24,868.2	8,864.1	1
Valuation Allowance Adjustment	(1,507.1)		--	(1,507.1)	2
Transfer Payments to MHRC	32,225.2		24,868.2	7,357.0	
Grants and Subsidies	2,953.5		3,500.0	(546.5)	3
Total MHRC	35,178.7		28,368.2	6,810.5	

1. The variance is due to an increase in the MHRC draw down required for 2004/05 operations. The actual results in support of these operations are found in The Manitoba Housing and Renewal Corporation Statement of Operations on page 2 of the MHRC Financial Statements (see Appendix).
2. It is the Province of Manitoba's accounting policy to record the deficit/surplus of Crown organizations as an expenditure of the Province of Manitoba in the year in which they were incurred. The expenditure is recorded as a valuation allowance against advances owed to the province by the organization. The valuation allowance adjustment applied to MHRC Transfer Payments in 2004/05 is in the amount of (\$1,507.1).
3. The under expenditure in Financial Assistance is primarily due to a lower than projected recipient base under the Shelter Allowances For Elderly Renters (SAFER) program.

THE MANITOBA HOUSING AUTHORITY (MHA)

Objectives

- To provide quality affordable housing options to low-income seniors, single persons, families and persons with special housing needs, including crisis shelters for victims of family violence, who could not otherwise afford adequate housing in the private rental market for less than 30 per cent of their total household income.

Responsibilities

- As an agency of the MHRC, functions as the property management agency for approximately 13,100 units in the provincial public housing portfolio and ten crisis shelters for victims of domestic violence.
- Provides a safe and secure living environment for seniors, individuals and families at affordable rental rates geared to the income of the tenants.
- Fosters and supports tenants associations to enable tenants to be involved in assisting the housing authority to meet its goals in ensuring the success and sustainability of social housing programs.

Activities/Highlights in 2004/05

Following is a list of communities where Modernization and Improvement work was undertaken in 2004/05.

Modernization and Improvement

Community	Actual \$	Community	Actual \$	Community	Actual \$
Altona	852	Lac du Bonnet	1,102	Sifton	8,650
Arborg	3,370	Laurier	2,084	Somerset	43,872
Ashern	10,171	Lorette	888	Souris	33,458
Benito	2,583	McCreary	8,151	South Junction	278
Birch River	56	Middlebro	445	Sponsors	562,318
Brandon	240,252	Minitonas	4,038	Sprague	7,402
Carman	43,383	Minnedosa	636	St. Adolpe	1,231
Churchill	1,066,496	Mitchell	482	Ste. Agathe	2,140
Dauphin	18,878	Morden	28,988	St. Anne	241
Elkhorn	14,846	Neepawa	1,635	St. Eustache	656
Erickson	12,691	Niverville	722	St. Laurent	10,225
Ethelbert	1,561	Notre Dame	29,705	St. Leon	11,506
Fannystelle	51,785	Oakburn	9,533	St. Malo	289
Fisher Branch	381	Ochre River	34,180	St. Pierre	12,843
Flin Flon	763,628	Pilot Mound	25,396	Steinbach	2,985
Gilbert Plains	9,192	Piney	445	Strathclair	6,270
Gimli	578	Plumas	7,403	Swan River	44,269
Glenella	6,789	Poplarfield	19,166	The Pas	64,854
Grandview	3,340	Portage La Prairie	66,174	Thompson	30,147
Grunthal	1,370	Richer	385	Tolstoi	111
Haywood	3,624	Riverton	32,104	Vassar	779
Ile des Chenes	514	Rosenfeld	28,296	Vita	9,960
Kelwood	14,337	Rosburn	4,137	Whitemouth	4,483
Kenton	16,083	Russell	10,714	Winkler	102
Killarney	2,925	Selkirk	57,251	Winnipeg	3,599,141
Komarno	6,234	Sidney	642	Woodridge	556
Total M & I					\$7,129,387