



### URBAN ART CENTRES

The Urban Art Centres (UAC) program provides financial support to community-based, non-profit organizations delivering arts programming to high need and high risk communities. UAC supports activities focusing on crime prevention, healthy lifestyles and personal, social and community development. The goal is to increase individual, family and community involvement in child and youth development through arts activities in a wide range of disciplines. UAC has committed \$640,000 to date and is currently supporting five community organizations: Art City, Graffiti Art Programming, West End Cultural Centre, Ndinawe Youth Resource Centre and the Winnipeg

International Children's Festival/Circus and Magic Program.

A community-based initiative delivered in partnership with the Winnipeg International Children's Festival, the Circus and Magic Program (CAMP) presents at risk youth with opportunities to participate in arts programs. Throughout the year, CAMP offers a variety of day camps. It also offers a one-week tour of remote Northern Manitoba communities, providing performance development, training and related resources for over 300 participants. CAMP is part of a strong network of non-profit, youth-oriented programs coordinating a wide scope of activities.



## Neighbourhoods Alive! TAKING PRIDE IN OUR COMMUNITIES

## Neighbourhoods Alive!

Financial Summary  
to March 31, 2008

### COMMITMENTS BY PROGRAM

NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND	\$15,430,009
NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE	\$7,202,505
COMMUNITY INITIATIVES	\$2,301,386
TRAINING INITIATIVES	\$4,621,233
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING ASSISTANCE	\$11,283,738
LIGHTHOUSES	\$3,312,000
URBAN ARTS CENTRES	\$640,000
SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS	\$84,798
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$44,875,669</b>



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Manitoba

## A Report to the Community volume 3

## Expanding Our Reach



Neighbourhoods Alive! (NA!) was launched in June 2000 as the provincial government's long term social and economic strategy to support and encourage community driven revitalization efforts in designated older neighbourhoods. NA! helps build healthy communities by providing local residents with the resources they need to renew their own neighbourhoods.

NA! works collaboratively with communities, non-profit organizations and other funders to support a wide range of priority neighbourhood projects. These include: housing renewal, enhancements to parks and facilities, safety and wellness initiatives, training projects for employment opportunities and after school recreation programs for children and youth.

Originally, NA! focused on neighbourhoods in three communities: Thompson, Brandon (core area) and Winnipeg (Lord Selkirk Park, William Whyte, Point Douglas, Spence, West Broadway). In 2005, the provincial government expanded the initiative to seven more Winnipeg inner city neighbourhoods: Centennial, North Portage, West Alexander, Daniel McIntyre, St. Matthews, Dufferin and St. John's. In 2007, the government announced that five additional communities would be receiving NA! support: Selkirk, Portage la Prairie, Dauphin, Flin Flon and The Pas.

Since 2000, the original NA! neighbourhoods have made visible gains resulting in a growing sense of vitality. Local investment in housing renewal has increased dramatically in the Winnipeg neighbourhoods. Improvements to parks, play structures and housing stock have re-energized Brandon's core area for the benefit of its growing number of families. Thompson is enjoying enhanced recreation facilities and programs for children and youth thanks to NA! supported partnerships between the local Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation, schools and community organizations.

Revitalization activities are also well underway in expansion communities. Since the 2005 expansion, NA! has welcomed two new neighbourhood renewal corporations in Winnipeg. NA! has also established interim advisory committees in each of the 2007 expansion communities and has supported a number of community-based projects.





# INGREDIENTS FOR RENEWAL – NEIGHBOURHOODS ALIVE! programs

## NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL FUND

The **Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF)** is designed to assist a broad range of community driven initiatives in the designated NA! neighbourhoods. These include projects that support the renewal of community facilities, local economic development, safety, healthy living and community co-operation and leadership. To date, over \$15.4 million has been committed to 491 community projects under the NRF including:

- **West Central Women’s Resource Centre** – the Respect project offers a peer support system for 30 women who are caregivers of gang-involved or at-risk youth. Participating women identify their issues, develop solutions and work in partnership with other community stakeholders to improve conditions for themselves, their families and their communities.
- **Cornish Child Care Centre** – the Infant Centre Renovation Project has added space for eight infants under the age of 24 months. The centre is located in a Manitoba Housing Authority apartment in Winnipeg’s West Broadway neighbourhood.

- **North End Revitalization Inc.** – the Storefront Enhancement Grants project provides grants to support exterior and safety improvements to storefronts for local small businesses and non-profit organizations in Winnipeg’s North End.
- **Central Neighbourhoods Development Corporation** – the Neighbourhood Safety Coordination Project supports wide ranging safety efforts in three central Winnipeg neighbourhoods.
- **Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation** – the Community Gardens Project provides soil and equipment for the Brandon Community Garden Network to improve community gardens.
- **The School District of Mystery Lake** – the Juniper School Play Structure Project delivered a new wheelchair accessible play structure for Grade 4 to Grade 8 students at Juniper School in Thompson.



## NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

The **Neighbourhood Development Assistance (NDA)** program provides core operating funding to seven Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations (NRCs) to support their coordination of revitalization efforts in the designated neighbourhoods. In 2006, the NRCs in the original NA! neighbourhoods (West Broadway Development Corporation, Spence Neighbourhood Association, North End Community Renewal Corporation, Thompson Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation and Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation) received their second five-year NDA funding commitments to support their core operations. In 2008, two new NRCs, Central Neighbourhoods Development Corporation and Daniel McIntyre/ St. Matthews Community Association received NDA funds. NDA is also being made available to emerging NRCs in the expansion communities.

## COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

The **Community Initiatives (CI)** program supports projects that have a broad impact on Winnipeg’s

inner city or target specific groups across the city’s core area. The program has funded a wide range of projects including community arts, youth recreation and leadership, safety and community economic development. To date, CI has committed over \$2.3 million to 71 inner city projects.

Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata Centre’s **Positive Athletic Cultural Experience** project provides sport, recreation and cultural activities for inner city children and youth, ages six to 17. The project operates on a part-time basis during the school year and full-time basis during July and August. Programs are offered at three community sites: Broadway Neighbourhood Centre, Turtle Island Neighbourhood Centre and Weston Community Centre. Over 200 children regularly attend the program throughout the year. Activities include sweat lodge ceremonies, sharing circles, basketball, lacrosse, movie nights and museum visits.



## SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS (SRO)

For the past several years, NA! has supported the North End **School Resource Officers (SRO)** project under the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund, in partnership with the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) and the Winnipeg School Division (WSD). NA! also helped launch the Downtown SRO project, which supports the deployment of two community constables in downtown/ central neighbourhood schools. The SROs work with students, staff and parents to address crime and safety concerns and provide services from law enforcement to mediation.

In 2007, the provincial government established a new NA! program to support the deployment of police officers in schools located outside the designated NA! neighbourhoods. The SRO program has allowed NA! to fund a three-year pilot SRO project in south-central Winnipeg, in partnership with the WPS and the WSD. The project supports the deployment of a community constable to serve six WSD South District schools including four high schools and two junior high schools.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING ASSISTANCE (NHA)

The **Neighbourhood Housing Assistance (NHA)** program provides funding to Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations, non-profit community housing corporations and private landlords/developers

to renovate, rehabilitate or construct new housing units and promote homeownership. To date, NHA has contributed to the repair, rehabilitation or construction of over 1,400 housing units in Thompson, Brandon and Winnipeg’s inner city. This does not include properties that have received financial assistance through the Front and Paint or Housing Fix-Up grant programs administered by Neighbourhood Renewal Corporations. Those grants (maximum of \$1,000) have assisted hundreds of homeowners/ landlords in Winnipeg, Brandon and Thompson with exterior home repairs.

SAM (Properties) Inc. is a non-profit housing corporation that received NHA funds for the construction of four unique residential projects including two each in the Centennial and Spence neighbourhoods of Winnipeg. Each building includes eight, self-contained 325 square-foot units. Trademarked as **Pocket Suites**, these single-room occupancy units provide an alternative to the standard rooming house model. They provide tenants with greater privacy and a more autonomous lifestyle. The projects have received numerous awards recognizing innovative planning and design.



## LIGHTHOUSES

The **Lighthouses** program helps reduce youth crime by working with community partners to offer young people constructive, alternative recreation outlets. The program provides community-based, after-school recreational and educational activities organized by and for youth in schools and other neighbourhood facilities. Lighthouse sites receive \$1,000 in monthly provincial funding (\$12,000 each year per site), covering up to 50 percent of project costs. Projects must have other partners that provide funding or in-kind contributions such as the use of a facility or equipment. Since 2000, more than \$3.3 million has been committed to establish over 55 Lighthouses across the province. In 2007/2008, Manitoba Lighthouses received more than 148,000 visits by young people.

In October 2007, the **Wapanohk Lighthouse** site opened its doors in Thompson. Managed by Mystery Lake School Division, the site provides activities every Wednesday and Thursday night for youth ages 10 to 16. Programs include structured gym time, games, traditional teachings, arts and crafts, movie nights and workshops on



topics such as healthy relationships, problem-solving, and drug and alcohol abuse. With programs like Lighthouses, Wapanohk School is becoming a central hub for community-based activities.

## TRAINING INITIATIVES

The **Training Initiatives** program supports projects in designated Neighbourhoods Alive! communities that help residents facing employment barriers access jobs through workplace training. To date, the program has committed over \$4.6 million to provide more than 390 graduates with training in a range of employment fields, including health care, family support, trades and youth services.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Winnipeg Inc. delivers the **Youth Recreation Activity Worker Training Program**, in conjunction with Red River College. The 38-week course is offered to 16 inner city youth per session who receive training to work in recreational facilities. The curriculum includes child and adolescent development, programming for youth, health and wellness, non-violent crisis intervention, basic writing skills and volunteerism. The success rate of this program has continued to increase since its inception with 81 per cent of participants anticipated to complete the current session.

