

# Protecting Manitobans

## *Advancing Manitoba*

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Budget 2021

# Protecting Manitobans from COVID-19

- \$1.2 billion for COVID-19 costs and contingency funds for future needs:
  - \$230 million for PPE, testing and vaccine site infrastructure, contact tracing and other preparations
  - \$350 million for additional health care investments to prepare for future COVID-19 waves
  - \$160 million to support school and education needs over this and next school year
  - \$100 million for the vaccine program
  - \$40 million for Manitoba Restart Capital initiatives at the municipal level



## Protecting Manitobans and their Health Care

- Increases to overall health care funding by \$156 million from last year, to a total of \$6.98 billion
- \$40 million will shorten waits for priority procedures and services caused by the pandemic
- \$10 million to reduce wait times for hip, knee and cataract procedures
- \$23 million for cancer treatments
- \$2.7 million to expand dialysis treatments for nearly 200 more patients
- \$9.3 million for personal care home expansions in Steinbach and Carman, adding more than 120 beds
- \$1.3 million in funding for Manitoba's Northern Healthy Foods Initiative

## Protecting Manitobans' Mental Health

- Establishing a new department of Mental Health, Wellness and Recovery with \$342 million for programming and services
- \$1.7 million for the Mental Health and Addictions Strategy
- \$1.8 million for 24/7 housing supports for individuals with diagnosed mental health conditions

## Protecting Manitoba Families

- \$1.6 million in operating grants to child care centres to support 392 new licensed spaces that opened over the past year, and 149 new spaces that will open over the coming year, for a total of 541 spaces, in addition to 50 new home-based licensed child care spaces
- Freezing child care fees for three years
- Close to \$22 million more in Rent Assist, the most generous such program in Canada, to provide monthly financial benefits to low-income Manitobans living in private rental accommodations
- Freezing the annual rent guideline through 2022 and 2023 to help Manitoba renters catch up after the pandemic
- \$12.5 million for Community Living and disABILITY Services will help more than 7,000 adult Manitobans safely live and participate in the community



## Protecting Education for Manitobans

- New classroom investments to support the Better Education Starts Today (BEST) strategy, which is anticipated to provide up to \$40 million more in the classrooms for students, including:
  - \$5 million to advance our Better Education Starts Today Strategy
  - \$5.5 million for special needs funding to ensure every student can succeed
- Introduce a refundable Teaching Expense Tax Credit where educators in child care and K-12 facilities will be able to claim a 15 per cent refund for up to \$1,000 on eligible teaching supplies
- \$4 million for a virtual learning strategy and program to support online, distance and remote learning for all Manitoba students

2021



## Protecting Manitobans' Incomes

- No retail sales tax on personal services like haircuts and salon visits as of December, saving nearly \$8 million annually
- Reduced vehicle registration fees by ten per cent starting in July
- Phasing out education property taxes:
  - 50 per cent education property tax rebate directly to residential and farm property owners over the next two years – 25 per cent this year and 25 per cent next year
  - owners of other types of property will see a ten per cent rebate this year

## Protecting Our Environment and Natural Resources

- \$1.2 million to the Climate and Green Plan Implementation Office to advance our Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan
- New initiatives include:
  - increasing the Conservation and Climate Fund by \$400,000 to \$1 million to fund projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - establishing a new \$1 million Organics Green Impact Bond, the first of its kind in Manitoba, to divert organic waste from landfills, create green jobs and reduce greenhouse gas emissions
  - committing nearly \$4 million to protect the health and safety needs of Northern Affairs communities and improve water and wastewater treatment and disposal sites

## Protecting Public Safety

- \$2.9 million to fix the backlog in the courts system caused by COVID-19
- Establish the new Manitoba Criminal Intelligence Centre to help disrupt criminal activity and prevent crime, increase resources for criminal property forfeiture, fund the Citizens on Patrol program and other key items to improve public safety and policing
- \$815,000 to help support victims of crime in Manitoba, by increasing supports for family violence and families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls
- \$1.2 million in restorative justice initiatives for First Nations and Métis communities

## Advancing Jobs and Growth

- Raising the payroll tax exemption threshold from \$1.5 million to \$1.75 million of annual payroll, and raising the threshold below which employers pay a reduced rate from \$3.0 million to \$3.5 million
- Extending the Cultural Industries Printing Tax Credit and the Community Enterprise Development Tax Credit and makes the Book Publishing Tax Credit permanent
- \$62 million for COVID-19 recovery job creation and workforce training that will help businesses find workers and workers find jobs
- \$25 million for youth and student job hiring, through a range of public, private and non-profit sector-focused programs

## Advancing Infrastructure

- More than \$2.1 billion for strategic infrastructure across Manitoba
  - \$630 million for highway and road construction and maintenance, including two major projects to improve the safety of Manitoba's highways
- The infrastructure program designates:
  - over \$292 million for health facilities infrastructure, allowing us to begin construction of the new St. Boniface Hospital Emergency Department and continue strengthening our other emergency departments
  - \$415 million in K-12 education and post-secondary infrastructure investment to advance the construction of 6 new schools and perform additional upgrades and improvements to existing schools

## Advancing Students

- More than \$680 million to post-secondary institutions, plus \$10 million to support priority maintenance to their facilities.
- Increased funding by nearly \$4 million to the Manitoba Bursary Fund to help students access post-secondary education.

## Advancing Communities

- \$5.6 million for the Building Sustainable Communities Program
- \$25 million trust to redevelop the Hudson's Bay Building in downtown Winnipeg



# Protecting Manitobans through COVID-19

Budget 2021 will invest more:

- in **health care** and COVID-19 support including mental health support, child care access, reducing wait times and providing health care closer to home
- in **jobs** with new actions to grow our economy, boost skills and attract newcomers to our province
- in **economic growth** by encouraging private sector investments and further reducing red-tape

and

- keep making life more affordable for working families by bringing much-needed **tax relief**

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For more information on Budget 2021,  
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