

**RCMP INITIATIVES FUNDED BY MANITOBA'S
CRIMINAL PROPERTY FORFEITURE FUND**

The Manitoba government is investing more than \$346,000 in community projects and specialized equipment for the RCMP in 2019-20.

These projects are funded through Manitoba's Criminal Property Forfeiture Fund:

- expanding the WITS (Walk away, Ignore, Talk it out, Seek help) program to schools in Shamattawa, South Indian Lake, Nelson House, Leaf Rapids, Sioux Valley Dakota Nation, Buffalo Point First Nation, Gympsumville and Oxford House to reduce bullying and peer victimization;
- distributing Be Safe kits to children aged five to nine to introduce the concepts of children's rights, safe and supportive friendships, adults' responsibilities to protect children from harm, privacy, and safe and unsafe touching;
- delivering fraud and safety presentations to older Indigenous community members in the St. Laurent region;
- supporting personal development programs to youth who are incarcerated through the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, with a focus on personal development and positive lifestyle choices;
- supporting the Liberty FC football club in Winnipeg, intended to keep young people who are refugees connected to a positive recreational experience;
- installing a skate sharpener in the Cranberry Portage Community Club to encourage youth involvement in recreational programs;
- purchasing two commercial-grade tents to be used in an annual family camp-out in the Sandy Bay area of Cross Lake, with the goal of fostering positive relationships between police, the community and families;
- funding to support a youth curling program in Fisher Branch, to encourage youth involvement in recreational programs;
- establishing a community garden and wellness area for elders and other members of the Moose Lake community;
- rebuilding a community hiking trail and supporting a traditional educational program, including fishing, setting and lifting nets, natural medicines and survival skills, for young people served by the Leaf Rapids detachment;
- purchasing hockey equipment that could be signed out by Leaf Rapids youth, to encourage involvement in recreational programs;

- providing animal care sessions at local schools and training workshops in Norway House on building doghouses, which will be provided to dog owners once completed to support stronger animal protection in the community;
- supporting 40 girls and young women from Shamattawa gain personal strength and self-confidence through participation in a Girl Guides summer camp; and
- expanding a junior rangers outdoor program for young people, with a focus on team-building and life skills, operated through the Snow Lake detachment;

The fund also provides \$70,000 toward specialized equipment for the RCMP to more quickly process cash seized in investigations by the Thompson detachment and to support improved communications systems for the explosive disposal unit when responding to incidents.

The Manitoba government also provided funding from its share of the federal proceeds of crime fund to several initiatives in 2019-20 including:

- expanding the use of HealthIM response tool, which helps determine the most appropriate response based on the officer's observations and a risk assessment tool (\$200,000);
- evaluating the effectiveness of community mobilization initiatives in Brandon and Portage la Prairie (\$23,000); and
- supporting the restorative justice committee in Portage la Prairie (\$3,500).