

FAMILY AFFORDABILITY PACKAGE BENEFITS**Family Affordability Benefit Cheques**

For Families — All families that have at least one child and less than \$175,000 in family net income as reported on their 2021 income tax return will receive a payment. Payments will be \$250 for the first eligible child and \$200 for each additional eligible child. An estimated 145,000 families will benefit with an average cheque of approximately \$440 per family, totalling \$63 million in benefits.

For Seniors — Seniors with family income less than \$40,000 who claimed the Education Property Tax Credit for Seniors on their 2021 income tax return will be eligible. This \$16-million initiative will help approximately 52,500 senior households.

Cheques will start going out in late September and will be mailed automatically to eligible recipients to the address indicated on their 2021 tax return. Eligible families and seniors who have changed mailing addresses since the time of their 2021 tax filings will have an opportunity to update their address through a government web portal. These benefits are advance payments of a refundable tax credit and will not be taxable or affect eligibility for other tax credits.

Help for Manitobans Most in Need

Manitobans on Employment and Income Assistance (EIA) will benefit from increases to the basic needs rate. Starting in October for the November benefit month, EIA general assistance clients who do not have dependent children will receive an extra \$50 each month per adult. All EIA disability clients will receive an additional \$25 per household each month. In total, this represents \$6.6 million in supports.

The Food Security Fund is a \$1.75-million fund to provide temporary relief to organizations experiencing financial difficulty due to rising costs and inflation. The fund will support community organizations across the province who provide food to Manitobans in need. The fund will open for applications on Sept.26 and will remain open for two weeks. For further program information, visit www.manitoba.ca/familyaffordability.