



Localized Improvement Fund for Tomorrow (LIFT)

What is LIFT about?

The Localized Improvement Fund for Tomorrow (LIFT) supports locally-driven revitalization efforts in five Winnipeg localities outside of the inner city. The fund was established to address community concerns about neighbourhood decline in smaller areas within Winnipeg. Through the LIFT, community development opportunities will be supported in Elwick (Southeast Maples), Weston, Osborne-Mayfair, Alpine-Lavallee and South Pembina.

Since the launch of Neighbourhoods Alive! (NA!) in 2000, there has been considerable public interest in expanding the provincial initiative. As a result, NA! expanded in 2006 to serve seven additional inner city Winnipeg neighbourhoods; in 2007 to include five additional urban communities outside of Winnipeg; and in 2010 to include the Elmwood/Chalmers neighbourhood of Winnipeg.

The LIFT was established as a scale-appropriate NA! program to serve pockets of need in existing Winnipeg neighbourhoods. Characteristics in these pockets are closely aligned with those in other designated NA! neighbourhoods, including: social, economic and environmental challenges such as high rates of poverty, unemployment and crime as well as a lack of adequate recreation, family support, affordable housing and economic opportunities.

The goal of the fund is to support opportunities to build on the strengths of the communities and enhance opportunities for community participation, recreation, employment, and well-being.

How much funding is available?

The LIFT will provide \$90,000 in annual project based funding to support community-driven revitalization projects in each of the localities over the next four years.

Who can apply?

LIFT will support neighbourhood organizations and groups representing local interests in their efforts to build on local capacity and undertake community projects. The applicant need not be located within the geographic boundaries of the locality but the project/program must benefit residents of the locality.

Any community group of residents, volunteers or non-profit organization serving residents in the community can apply for project funding. For grants over \$5,000 the applicant must be an incorporated non-profit organization.

What kinds of initiatives are eligible?

NA! anticipates LIFT supporting a broad range of revitalization projects which may include:

- community development and engagement projects
- community economic development projects
- community beautification and greening projects
- programming
- workshops and training
- short-term project based staffing
- equipment

What kinds of initiatives are NOT eligible?

LIFT is not intended to support projects which:

- provide services which are primarily government mandated and funded
- for individual, religious or political purposes

What is the application process?

The LIFT will have an initial intake in fall 2011, which will be announced to the localities late summer and posted on the NA! website. Application packages will also be available on the website.

Organizations and groups wishing to apply are encouraged to first consult NA! to confirm eligibility and receive an application form. For more information on LIFT and the application process, please call 945-3379 and ask to speak to the NA! staff responsible for LIFT.

Contacting Neighbourhoods Alive!

For more information or assistance, please contact:

Neighbourhoods Alive!

Housing and Community Development

Government of Manitoba

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Or visit the website at: www.neighbourhoodsalive.mb.ca

