

# News Release | Communiqué

Winnipeg Housing and  
Homelessness Initiative

Programme Logement et  
Sans abris de Winnipeg

Canada  Manitoba  Winnipeg

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## WHHI APPROVES CLOSE TO \$1.9 MILLION FOR INNER-CITY NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING PLANS AND MAJOR REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

**WINNIPEG – December 18, 2000** – Four inner-city groups will receive close to \$1.9 million from the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) to develop housing plans for the Spence, West Broadway and William Whyte neighbourhoods, as well as undertake major housing renovations in West Broadway and William Whyte.

The funding announcement was made jointly today by: Ron Duhamel, Minister for Veterans Affairs, and minister responsible for the WHHI, on behalf of Alfonso Gagliano, Minister of Public Works and Government Services, and minister responsible for Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), Manitoba Family Services and Housing Minister Tim Sale, and by Mayor Glen Murray.

"This initiative reflects the spirit of partnership Canadians demonstrate toward helping each other," said Minister Duhamel. "By working with local community groups in a shared commitment to improve housing, the WHHI is actively involved in the united effort to revitalize the inner city of Winnipeg."

"The approval of these projects builds upon the foundation established jointly by the community and governments to revitalize communities," said Minister Sale. "This is a clear example of community groups taking the lead in improving their neighbourhoods."

"Involving residents directly in planning and rebuilding their neighbourhoods leads to healthier, and safer communities," said Mayor Murray. "Neighbourhood plans are vital to community development because they define targeted actions that are based on the knowledge and interests of the citizens that live and work in the community. In short, this leads to projects that are doable."

Funding for the housing projects in West Broadway and William Whyte is estimated at up to \$1.8 million and is being provided under the provincial Neighbourhood Housing Assistance (NHA) program, the federal-provincial Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) and the City of Winnipeg Housing Policy initiative. In addition, the Spence Neighbourhood Association, West Broadway Development Cooperation and North End Community Renewal Corporation will each receive \$30,000 to develop neighbourhood housing plans.

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**The West Broadway Development Corporation (WBDC)** will acquire and renovate 25-units of housing in the West Broadway neighbourhood. Total project cost is estimated at \$1,220,000. The WHHI is providing up to \$842,000 in funding assistance.

The project will involve a mix of single-family homes, lease-to-purchase and family rental units through the purchase and renovation of existing sub-standard houses in the area. The redevelopment strategy will also include the development of neighbourhood green space and possible future infill housing.

**The North End Housing Project Inc. (NEHP)** will expand its housing revitalization efforts by acquiring and renovating 25 homes in the William Whyte neighbourhood. Total project cost is estimated at \$1,550,000. The WHHI is providing up to \$950,000 in funding assistance.

NEHP will purchase and renovate three to five bedroom homes that will be rented on a lease-to-purchase basis. Working closely with the Community Education Development Association (CEDA) and its *Just Housing* training program, NEHP will coordinate homeownership training, home budgeting support and other outreach assistance. Contractors hired for the projects will be encouraged to use locally skilled residents to do the renovations.

Both housing development projects are targeted for completion by December 2001.

The Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) is a new three-year, multi-million dollar tripartite partnership established by the governments of Canada, Manitoba and the City of Winnipeg to address declining housing stock, homelessness and the revitalization of Winnipeg's older neighbourhoods.

Located at 233 Portage Avenue in the Curry Building, the WHHI single window office serves as a one-stop shop approach for community organizations to access information on government-funded housing and homelessness programs. The single window concept also helps foster improved cooperation and information sharing between the various levels of government and the community groups. For more information on the programs available, call the WHHI at (204) 940-3070.

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**Media inquiries:**

Brian Williamson

Communications

Winnipeg Housing and

Homelessness Initiative (WHHI)

(204) 984-0592

e-mail: [brian.williamson@hrdc-drhc.gc.ca](mailto:brian.williamson@hrdc-drhc.gc.ca)