

# We've Got It All

Manitoba's bottom line benefits make it the ideal location to live, work and raise a family.

- Staying close to friends and family and finding a good job that provides you with opportunities for advancement.
- Owning your own home at a price you can afford.
- A cost of living that's low and a standard of living that's high.
- Living where business, labour and communities work together.

When you're looking for a place to live, work and raise a family, these are the things you take into account.

And these are the things that make Manitoba the ideal location to build your future.

### There's no place like home

Manitoba has many bottom line benefits that you should know about when you're choosing where you're going to put down roots.

Take a look at the big picture. When you do, you'll see that Manitoba has a great deal to offer you and your family.

## TOP 10 Reasons to live, work and raise a family in Manitoba

**1 Lakeshore Cabins** - Manitobans have one of the highest rates of vacation home ownership in Canada. Our province is home to over 100,000 lakes and for generations Manitobans have enjoyed weekends at the lake with family and friends. In addition, Manitoba's many beautiful provincial parks are year-round havens for campers, fishers, hikers and lovers of the great outdoors.

**2 Festivals and Events** - From Folklorama to Festival du Voyageur, from the beauty of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet to the exciting action at a Moose, Bomber or Goldeyes' game, Manitoba offers a wide range of cultural and entertainment attractions throughout the year.

**3 Commuting Distance** - The average commuting distance to work in Winnipeg is less than six kilometres, the lowest of any Canadian city with a population of over 500,000.

**4 Housing Costs** - Despite a recent increase in Manitoba's housing costs, we still remain one of the least expensive locations in which to purchase a home. A recently-published survey shows that Winnipeg is Canada's top-ranked city in terms of housing affordability.

**5 Some of the Lowest Car Insurance Rates in Canada** - Manitoba has some of the lowest auto insurance rates in Canada. In some provinces, you would pay twice as much for auto insurance as you pay in Manitoba.

**6 Fore!** - Manitoba has one of the highest ratios of golf courses to golfers in Canada, as well as one of the highest golfing participation rates in Canada. More than one in four Manitobans tee off in the province each year.



**7 Low Electricity Rates** - Manitoba's published electricity rates are consistently among the lowest in the world. In addition, our province is committed to developing energy conservation programmes as well as exploring new sources of green energy.

**8 An Education System that gets Great Marks** - Manitoba's five universities and three community colleges offer high-quality advanced education with some of Canada's lowest tuition fees.

**9 Manitobans have Big Hearts** - The rate of volunteerism in our province is consistently among the highest in Canada, and Manitobans have the highest proportion of charitable giving of any province.

**10 Home Construction is Booming** - Manitoba home construction is booming, with housing starts up 85% over the past five years. Last year, we had the second strongest growth in housing starts in Canada, and forecasters predict even more growth next year.

### Manitoba Credit Ratings February 2006

Moody's Investors Service	Aa2
Standard and Poor's	AA-
Dominion Bond Rating Service	A (high)

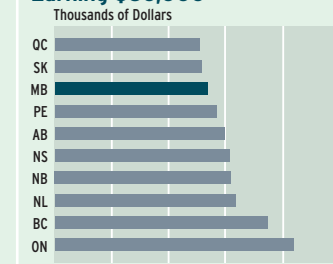
### 2005 Inter-Provincial Comparison of Annual Personal Costs and Taxes

Manitoba remains one of the most affordable provinces in which to live with among the lowest costs for:

- Childcare
- Gasoline tax
- Automobile insurance
- Electricity
- Housing

Take a quick look at this information and you'll discover why when it comes to choosing a place to build your future, there really is no place like home.

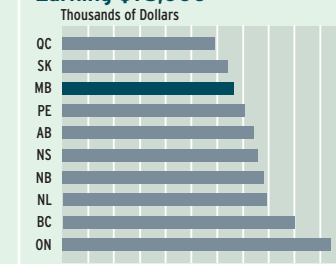
#### Two-Earner Family of Four Earning \$60,000\*



\* includes income tax, retail sales and gasoline taxes, health premiums, mortgage costs, child care, auto insurance, telephone service, electricity, heating and property taxes

- Third lowest combined taxes and living costs in the country

#### Two-Earner Family of Five Earning \$75,000\*



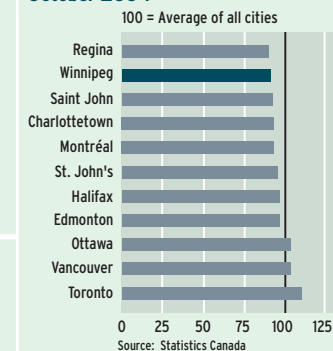
\* includes income tax, retail sales and gasoline taxes, health premiums, mortgage costs, child care, auto insurance, telephone service, electricity, heating and property taxes

- Third lowest combined taxes and living costs in the country

**Housing Costs** - House prices in Manitoba are among the lowest in the country, and a recently-produced independent study shows that housing prices in Winnipeg are more affordable than in any other large Canadian city. This means more young couples can buy their own homes, compared to other Canadian cities like Calgary, Vancouver and Toronto.

**Cost of Living** - Winnipeggers enjoy an extremely affordable cost of living and some of the most competitive retail prices in the country. In fact, a recent survey of ten Canadian cities found that Winnipeg had the lowest cost of living of any major centre in the country.

#### Comparison of Retail Prices, October 2004



### Get all the facts

To learn more about the benefits of living and working in Manitoba, visit the Manitoba government home page at [manitoba.ca](http://manitoba.ca)

### AFFORDABILITY OF HOUSES IN CANADIAN CITIES

Market	Average House Price
Winnipeg	\$118,000
Quebec	\$135,300
Edmonton	\$164,900
Montreal	\$169,400
Ottawa	\$214,900
Calgary	\$219,000
Hamilton	\$224,900
Toronto	\$290,400
Vancouver	\$373,000