

Winnipeg Housing and  
Homelessness Initiative



Programme Logement et  
Sans-abri de Winnipeg

Canada

Manitoba



Winnipeg

# News Release      Communiqué

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 20, 2001

## WHHI FUNDING HELPS EXPAND SILOAM MISSION'S HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

**WINNIPEG, MANITOBA**—People who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless will benefit from expanded downtown food and clothing services with the help of a \$94,646 contribution from the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative. The funding is provided to Siloam Mission under the Government of Canada's Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI), through the National Homelessness Initiative.

Today's announcement was made by the Honourable Ron J. Duhamel, Minister of Veterans Affairs and Secretary of State (Western Economic Diversification) (Francophonie), on behalf of the Honourable Claudette Bradshaw, Minister of Labour and Federal Co-ordinator on Homelessness along with Tim Sale, Minister of Manitoba Family Services and Housing; and Glen Murray, Mayor of the City of Winnipeg.

"I am pleased that the Government of Canada, along with our partners in the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative, have been able to assist Siloam Mission in its efforts to help those who need it most," said Minister Duhamel. "Siloam is an organization that plays a vital role in providing much needed support and services to the homeless people of Winnipeg. By expanding its food and clothing services, Siloam will help a greater number of people in our inner city."

"It is gratifying to have community partners we can work with to support families and individuals who are homeless or at risk of being homeless," said Minister Sale. "During this harsh season, the emergency provision of food and clothing is essential to the basic needs of these citizens in need."

Total project costs are \$99,646, including a \$5,000 contribution from the Siloam Mission. Through the Government of Canada's SCPI, the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative is providing \$94,646 to Siloam Mission to hire an executive director, two outreach workers and a cook. The new staff will increase the organization's capacity to provide essential services to the homeless or those at risk of being homeless in Winnipeg's core area.

The funding will enable Siloam Mission to expand the hours of its drop-in centre located at 564 Main Street from two to six hours daily, Monday to Friday. In addition to providing free clothing and an emergency food bank, the drop-in centre will offer a variety of services including training in lifestyle development and enhanced life skills, which will help clients access medical services and other resources in the community as well as individual counselling, and advocacy work.

“The demand for essential services, such as food and clothing, has greatly exceeded initial expectations,” said Rick Glasel, Secretary Treasurer of Siloam Mission. “The Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative funding allows Siloam Mission to make an immediate difference in the lives of street people, while we build ourselves into a self-sustaining organization.”

The Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative is a 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. To date, the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative has committed over \$9.8 million to help community groups rehabilitate houses and provide assistance to homeless individuals and families, or those at risk of being homeless.

Located at 233 Portage Avenue in the Curry Building, the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative Single Window office serves as a one-stop shop for community organizations to access information on government-funded housing and homelessness programs. The single window concept also helps to 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 Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative at (204) 940-3070.

Funding for the National Homelessness Initiative was provided for in the February 2000 budget and is built into the existing financial framework.

For more information on the Government of Canada's National Homelessness Initiative, visit our Web site at: [www.hrdc.gc.ca/homelessness](http://www.hrdc.gc.ca/homelessness)

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# **BACKGROUND**

## **Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative (WHHI) Funding**

### **Government of Canada**

Under the National Homelessness Initiative, communities in Manitoba will receive approximately \$25 million over three years:

- \$12.7 million through the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI), which includes \$10.8 million for homelessness projects in Winnipeg, and \$1.9 million for projects outside the city.

The SCPI is based on a community plan developed by the various partners to design and implement local solutions to their particular homelessness issues. The SCPI funds up to 50 per cent of the costs of implementing the community plan. The other 50 per cent is comprised of direct or in-kind contributions from a variety of partners, including other levels of government, community organizations, and the private and voluntary sectors. All homelessness projects must meet the terms and conditions of the SCPI prior to receiving funding.

Additional federal funding assistance is provided through the following programs:

- \$1.9 million for youth projects under Youth-at-Risk–Homelessness (Youth Employment Strategy); and
- \$9.9 million for Aboriginal-specific projects under Urban Aboriginal Strategy–Homelessness.

Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP) – to help low-income households and landlords make necessary repairs to bring their properties up to acceptable health and safety standards. RRAP is cost-shared 75/25 per cent respectively by the federal government through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), and by the provincial government through Manitoba Family Services and Housing. Manitoba is administering the program while the City of Winnipeg acts as the delivery agent.

### **Government of Manitoba**

- \$8 million over four years for housing in Winnipeg neighbourhoods through the Neighbourhood Housing Assistance program under the Neighbourhoods Alive! initiative. Neighbourhoods Alive! is a long-term development strategy aimed at providing community groups with the support they need for programs in the areas of housing and physical improvements, employment and training, education and recreation, and safety and crime prevention.
- The National Homelessness Initiative will contribute to the revitalization of housing in declining neighbourhoods by supporting homeownership and renovation initiatives of community-based groups

in designated neighbourhoods. Eligible community organizations and individuals may receive up to \$10,000 per residential dwelling unit for the purchase or renovation.

### **City of Winnipeg**

- \$7 million over five years under the Winnipeg Housing Policy to fund housing initiatives in targeted inner-city neighbourhoods. Funding is available through several programs:
  - Winnipeg Municipal Cost Offsets Program provides financial assistance up to \$5,000 per housing unit through reimbursement of City fees and other eligible costs.
  - Winnipeg Housing Revitalization Program provides financial assistance up to \$5,000 per housing unit for housing project pre-development costs.
  - Winnipeg Neighbourhood Housing Plans and Advocacy Program provides financial assistance and other support to neighbourhood stakeholders to develop a Neighbourhood Housing Plan.
  - Winnipeg Housing Demonstration Program provides financial assistance to proponents to encourage unique and innovative approaches to addressing inner-city housing issues that result in quality, affordable housing.
  - Winnipeg Minimum Home Repair Program provides financial assistance to owner-occupants to undertake minor necessary repairs required for continued healthy and safe occupancy of homes.