

Manitoba PC Caucus Review

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CONNECTED CARE CLINIC TO SERVE NORTHEAST WINNIPEG

June 15, 2018

A walk-in connected care clinic opening at Concordia Hospital next summer will provide access to care for area residents in need of same-day health-care services, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced this week.

“This project builds on Concordia Hospital’s strength in family medicine and enhances the hospital’s role as a health resource to the surrounding community,” said Goertzen. “The changes will provide improved access to primary care providers in East Kildonan, North Kildonan and Transcona while extending the hours of walk-in care for the community.”

As many as half the people who come to Concordia’s emergency department on a daily basis could be appropriately cared for by physicians within a walk-in connected care clinic, said Goertzen.

The clinic will operate with extended hours daily from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. It will offer an alternative to urgent or emergency care for health concerns that are not life-threatening but which need to be addressed the same day. In addition to the primary care services offered by a local MyHealth Team partner, the Concordia clinic will also have laboratory and diagnostic services on-site.

PROVINCE TO STREAMLINE MUNICIPAL ROAD FUNDING

The Manitoba government will streamline funding for municipal road maintenance for 12 municipalities, building on the province’s commitments to reduce red tape and support municipal decision-making, Municipal Relations Minister Jeff Wharton announced this week.

“Our government continues to review current processes to find ways to reduce red tape, while still providing a fair say for municipalities,” said Wharton. “We made a promise to provide municipalities with streamlined processes for accessing infrastructure dollars and we are continuing to deliver. After review and consultation with the 12 municipalities, we are changing the way this funding is delivered to provide greater certainty and flexibility for the communities.”

The funding is long-standing and was originally provided through Manitoba Infrastructure, but was eliminated from the budget by the NDP in 2012. Beginning this year, this funding will be moved into each municipality’s operating grant. The minister noted this change streamlines the funding process, while maintaining financial support and reducing uncertainty for these communities, allowing them to plan for future projects.

MANITOBA YOUTH JOB CENTRES OPENING FOR THE SUMMER

The Manitoba government is encouraging students and youth to gain employment skills and experience this summer at one of 38 Manitoba Youth Job Centres (MYJC) in communities throughout the province, Education and Training Minister Ian Wishart announced this week.

“Helping young people develop employment skills and gain work experience prepares them for the labour market and supports our provincial economy,” said Wishart. “That’s why our government is committed to ensuring youth have access to the opportunities they need to reach their potential.”

Located throughout rural and northern Manitoba, youth job centres help match local employers with qualified students and youth aged 12 to 29 for summer employment. This year, the Manitoba government is investing nearly \$400,000 in the program. The centres are expected to help approximately 11,000 students find jobs this summer, which the minister noted is the highest amount since the program’s creation in 1976.

The offices are staffed by post-secondary students hired as youth engagement leaders through the STEP Services student employment program. Offices can be operated in co-operation with community-based sponsoring committees.

Anyone interested can drop by a community youth job centre, open yearly from mid-May to mid-August, or call the MYJC co-ordinator year-round at 204-945-8115. For locations and more information, visit www.gov.mb.ca/cyo/youth/services/manitobayouthjobcentres.html.

REPORT ON FIRST NATIONS MINERAL DEVELOPMENT PROTOCOL RELEASED

The Manitoba government has released the *Co-chairs’ Report on the Manitoba–First Nations Mineral Development Protocol*, which includes key findings and recommendations on ways to create certainty in order to advance mineral development projects in a timely way, Growth, Enterprise and Trade Minister Blaine Pedersen and Indigenous and Northern Relations Minister Eileen Clarke announced this week, along with co-chairs Ron Evans, former chief of Norway House Cree Nation, and Jim Downey, former Manitoba deputy premier and cabinet minister.

“We are pleased to receive the report and recommendations,” said Pedersen. “A new protocol will create certainty for all parties including First Nations, industry and government, and help ensure First Nations can be actively involved in all phases of mineral development to create and share in the benefits of growth in this sector. Thank you to the co-chairs for their dedication in developing this framework.”

Evans and Downey engaged First Nations leadership, industry representatives and stakeholders to develop the protocol, which defines how consultations would occur during all phases of mineral development, from initial exploration to mine development and reclamation.

To view a copy of the co-chairs’ report, visit www.manitoba.ca/iem/mines/fnmdp.html.

To learn more about the Look North initiative, visit www.LookNorthMB.ca.