

Manitoba PC Caucus Review

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MANITOBA FUNDS 60 NEW PARAMEDICS

May 4, 2018

The Manitoba government is moving forward with plans to enhance the province's emergency medical services (EMS) system by providing funding for 60 new, full-time paramedic positions, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced this week.

First announced in this year's budget, the 60 new full-time equivalent (FTE) positions will reduce EMS reliance on on-call staffing positions by hiring full-time positions instead. Some positions will be filled by staff currently working in the system on an on-call basis. Other positions are expected to be posted shortly, with paramedics hired to fill the vacancies and be on the roads later this year, the minister said.

The new positions will be strategically spread out across Prairie Mountain Health, Southern Health-Santé Sud and Interlake-Eastern Regional Health Authority, ensuring staff are well positioned to respond to calls throughout their respective regions, the minister noted. The new hires represent a \$2.4-million investment for the final two quarters of this year, increasing to \$5 million next year, he added.

For more information on these newly funded paramedics, click [here](#).

MORE FINANCIAL SUPPORT AVAILABLE FOR POST-SECONDARY STUDENTS

The provincial government is streamlining the application process for Manitoba Student Aid and Manitoba Bursary to help more low-income and Indigenous students access funding, Education and Training Minister Ian Wishart announced this week.

The province plans to distribute up to \$8.6 million in additional loans for the 2018-19 program year. The province is increasing Manitoba Bursary by \$2.7 million to a total of \$13.2 million this academic year by redirecting underused bursaries and grants to be distributed more equitably among students.

"With easier access to loans and bursaries, we expect more students to enroll in post-secondary education, which opens doors to success," said Minister Wishart.

For more information on how these changes will benefit Manitoba post-secondary students or for info on how to apply for this funding, please click [here](#).

SHARING GOOD NEWS IN NEW YORK

Premier Brian Pallister and Finance Minister Cameron Friesen have been in New York meeting with a number of stakeholders to share the good news from Manitoba. Here are some snapshots from their meetings with business groups, executives, and financial media!



PROVINCE INVESTS IN PEDIATRIC CARDIOLOGY CLINIC AT HSC

The Manitoba government is prioritizing the redevelopment and relocation of the pediatric cardiology clinic at Health Sciences Centre Winnipeg (HSC), Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Kelvin Goertzen announced this week.

“The relocation of this clinic will centralize and streamline what is currently a fragmented system, resulting in improved accessibility and quality care for children in need of cardiology services,” said Goertzen. “This investment continues our efforts to modernize health-care infrastructure and allow the clinic to provide quality, family-centered care for Manitoba families. In particular, I want to thank the Children’s Hospital Foundation for their important work in moving the project forward.”

This relocation allows for improvements including two additional examination rooms, four cardiologist offices and dedicated spaces for services such as ultrasound, EKG testing and counselling, which currently occupy shared areas.

By relocating to a new, larger and better-designed facility physically connected to the rest of HSC, the clinic will be able to handle its current volume of patients safely and more efficiently, the minister noted. He added the move will also improve care by allowing easier access to MRI services, critical emergency services, the pediatric intensive care unit and the neonatal intensive care unit.

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