

Manitoba PC Caucus Review

Proud to serve
Manitobans

MANITOBA ROLLS OUT NEW CHILD CARE CENTRE DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT

November 9, 2018



The Manitoba government is inviting private-sector businesses to apply for the new Child Care Centre Development Tax Credit, Finance Minister Scott Fielding and Families Minister Heather Stefanson announced this week at an event in Sage Creek with Southdale MLA Andrew Smith.

“This innovative tax credit supports partnerships with the private sector to encourage more child-care spaces for Manitoba families who need them,” said Fielding. “We introduced this refundable tax credit to stimulate the creation of licensed child-care centres in work places, which helps businesses create strong community connections and meet employees’ needs.”

The ministers announced the first project to be eligible for the tax credit, which was created as part of Budget 2018. The province will provide \$740,000 to help create 74 new child-care spaces at a non-profit centre being built by Qualico in Sage Creek.

“The new centre in southeast Winnipeg means more families will have access to quality child care closer to where they live or work,” said Stefanson. “This will benefit Qualico employees and Sage Creek families, and serve as a model for other projects across Manitoba under the new tax credit.”

Construction started this fall on the centre at 215 Boulevard des Hivernants North. It will accommodate 16 infant and 58 preschool spaces, and feature an extended outdoor play area next to the Sage Creek nature trail.

Manitoba’s Child Care Centre Development Tax Credit is available for corporations that are not primarily engaged in child-care services. It provides approved applicants \$10,000 for each new licensed infant or preschool space created after March 12, 2018, and before 2021, claimable over five years.

MANITOBA ANNOUNCES NEW FUNDING FOR BEAR CLAN PATROL

The Manitoba government is investing nearly \$200,000 to provide support and assistance to the Bear Clan Patrol's community crime prevention and intervention efforts, Justice Minister Cliff Cullen and Municipal Relations Minister Jeff Wharton announced this week.

"We understand how important the Bear Clan Patrol is to our community," said Cullen. "By promoting safety, offering support and providing assistance, the group helps reduce crime and keep our streets safe."

Over \$126,000 is being invested through Manitoba Justice from the Proceeds of Crime Fund toward infrastructure and safety improvements including a 15-passenger van, first aid kits, safety gear and bikes for patrol. The funding will enable the Winnipeg Police Service (WPS) to work in partnership with the Bear Clan Patrol and through information sharing between the WPS and Bear Clan Patrol, the WPS will benefit from increased awareness of community situations.

An additional \$70,000 from the Municipal Relations Neighbourhood Renewal Fund will support developing a system to collect and distribute food donations to vulnerable people and partner agencies. It will also help to establish a dedicated base for Bear Clan operations for patrol co-ordination, information sharing, volunteer training and equipment storage. The space will serve as a focal point for Bear Clan Patrol activities.

Since briefly functioning during the 1990s, the Bear Clan restarted operations again in 2015, and has since become a model for community safety patrols by First Nations groups across Canada.

GOVERNMENT SEEKING MANITOBA-BASED PROVIDER FOR ADDICTIONS AND MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT

The Manitoba government will issue a request for proposals (RFP) later this month to engage a residential addictions facility within the province to treat individuals experiencing severe addiction and mental health disorders, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen announced this week.

"For years, those approved for treatment for severe addiction and mental health disorders would have to leave the province to receive these services," said Friesen. "By contracting a locally based facility, we would allow these individuals to focus on their recovery, not on travel, while being closer to home, their families and other supports."

Currently, individuals seeking this type of care are sent to an out-of-province facility, provided they meet the necessary criteria. From 2013 to 2017, funding for out-of-province treatment was provided to 39 Manitobans diagnosed with severe addiction and mental health disorders.

While the tendering process will determine the value of the contract, it is anticipated costs per client could be substantially less than out-of-province facilities, allowing the savings to be reinvested into treatment for others, said Friesen.

In the past 10 weeks, four Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinics have opened and treated more than 250 patients in Winnipeg, Thompson and Brandon, with a fifth location opening soon in Selkirk, the minister said. Six new mental health beds were also opened earlier this year at Health Science Centre Winnipeg, while a dozen additional women's addiction treatment beds were opened at the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba's Portage Avenue centre in Winnipeg.

LEST WE FORGET

Remembrance Day services will be held across Manitoba on Sunday, November 11th. Your PC MLAs will be attending services in their communities and invite you to join them or attend a service in your area.

To find a Remembrance Day service near you, please contact your local branch of the Royal Canadian Legion:

www.legion.ca/contact-us/find-a-branch

Earlier this week, Indigenous and Northern Relations Minister was joined by many MLAs to honour Indigenous veterans and commemorate National Aboriginal Veterans Day. PC MLAs also participated in a number of services held at schools across Manitoba in advance of Remembrance Day.

