

Manitoba PC Caucus Review

Proud to serve
Manitobans

FIRST RAPID ACCESS TO ADDICTIONS MEDICINE CLINIC OPENS IN WINNIPEG

September 7, 2018



The first of five Rapid Access to Addictions Medicine (RAAM) clinics is now open at Winnipeg's Crisis Response Centre, offering front-line help for Manitobans suffering from addictions, Health, Seniors and Active Living Minister Cameron Friesen announced this week.

"RAAM clinics help patients more easily navigate the health system, moving them between addiction medicine specialists, primary care providers and community supports," said Friesen. "The opening of these clinics is an important step toward addressing long wait times for Manitobans seeking treatment for addictions or substance-related concerns including opioids, methamphetamine and alcohol."

The first RAAM clinic, located near the Health Sciences Centre (HSC) Winnipeg campus at 817 Bannatyne Ave., opened on Aug. 31. The clinic provides assessment, counselling, the prescribing of appropriate medication, and connections for patients to community treatment programs and primary care physicians. No appointments are necessary.

Modelled after a successful program in Ontario, the clinics are typically staffed by an addictions physician and a combination of clinicians, counsellors and outreach workers.

Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living provided \$1.237 million for the creation of the clinics. The clinics were highlighted as a successful model during extensive public and stakeholder consultations through the development of the Virgo report. Released in May, the report outlined a mental health and addictions strategy for Manitoba. A plan for implementing other recommendations outlined in the report will be announced later this fall, the minister said.

Additional locations in Brandon, Thompson and Selkirk are expected to open within the next two months, Friesen added.

MANITOBA SUBMITS CARBON PRICING PLAN TO OTTAWA

The province has submitted its carbon pricing plan to the federal government as part of the terms of the Pan-Canadian Framework, Sustainable Development Minister Rochelle Squires announced this week.

“Our *Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* is the right plan for Manitoba. It will reduce emissions by more than the federal plan. It will cost less for Manitoba families than the federal plan,” said Squires. “Our plan is focused on Manitoba’s needs and Manitoba’s circumstances. It works better than Ottawa’s one-size-fits-all model. That’s why the federal backstop does not, and should not, apply to Manitoba.”

The federal plan calls for the price on carbon to start at \$10 per tonne in 2018 and rise by \$10 every year to \$50 per tonne in 2022. The Manitoba plan includes a flat \$25 per tonne carbon levy and an output-based pricing system for large industrial emitters. Manitoba’s plan is projected to reduce emissions by 80,000 tonnes more than a federally imposed plan by 2022, the minister added.

The *Made-In-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan* will cost less and be more effective than the federal plan, saving Manitoba families hundreds of dollars and the Manitoba economy millions of dollars, the minister said. Over the next four years, all carbon revenues collected in the province will be returned to Manitobans directly through lower taxes, she added.

“We will not allow the federal government to force its carbon tax on Manitobans. Our plan is the best way to make sure that does not happen,” said Squires.

A link to the submission can be found at www.gov.mb.ca/climateandgreenplan/.

PREMIER’S STATEMENT ON AGREEMENT BEING REACHED FOR CHURCHILL RAIL LINE

First and foremost, the conclusion of this transaction is extremely positive for all Manitobans and in particular for the people of Churchill and northern Manitoba. They have endured challenging circumstances for a very long time and we have stood with them.

We have consistently advocated that the federal government has a jurisdictional responsibility regarding the re-establishment of rail service and securing the future of the port for the benefit of Manitoba and the rest of Canada.

We fully recognize and applaud the federal government, particularly International Trade Diversification Minister Jim Carr, for their efforts to facilitate this transaction.

We look forward to working with the federal government and the new ownership group on an ongoing basis as we move forward with our Look North strategy over the months and years ahead.

We are hopeful the repair of the rail line can occur as soon as possible so that service can be resumed before freeze-up. However, we want to reassure the people of Churchill and the surrounding northern communities that we have already made the financial commitments and logistical arrangements necessary to ensure propane re-supply for the winter.

Follow us online!

twitter.com/PCcaucus

facebook.com/ManitobaPCcaucus

youtube.com/c/ManitobaPCcaucus

PROVINCE TO SUPPORT THE ENDOW MANITOBA 24-HOUR GIVING CHALLENGE

The Manitoba government will be providing up to \$225,000 over three years to The Winnipeg Foundation to support provincial participation in the annual Endow Manitoba 24-Hour Giving Challenge, Municipal Relations Minister Jeff Wharton announced this week.

“Manitoba is Canada’s most generous province and home to 55 community foundations, all of which are critical in supporting charitable work in their communities,” said Wharton. “The support that we are announcing today will allow us to build on our partnership with The Winnipeg Foundation, ensuring our community foundations can continue to make an impact in their communities for generations to come.”

Established in 2014, Endow Manitoba’s 24-Hour Giving Challenge is administered by The Winnipeg Foundation, providing incentives for rural community foundations to build their primary fund, generally called its undesignated fund. The goal of the challenge is to raise general awareness of community foundations as a way for Manitobans to support their community.

The province first participated in the Endow Manitoba 24-Hour Giving Challenge in 2017, which resulted in a 46 per cent increase in the number of private gifts and a 67 per cent increase in value of private gifts. Both The Winnipeg Foundation and the Province of Manitoba provided \$1 for each \$5 raised from other sources, up to \$2,000.

The support announced today will extend the province’s participation in the program until 2020 Wharton added.

For more information on the upcoming Endow Manitoba 24-Hour Giving Challenge, visit www.endowmanitoba.ca.

PC MLAs IN THE COMMUNITY



Agassiz MLA Hon. Eileen Clarke visiting Buffalo Point First Nation



St. Vital MLA Hon. Colleen Mayer presents backpacks to Lavallee School



Thompson MLA Kelly Bindle congratulates the winners of the Northern Manitoba Walleye Tournament