

2021 WINNIPEG 2031 POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY AT A GLANCE



Vision

To be a vibrant and healthy city which places its highest priority on quality of life for all residents.

Overarching Principle

We will Honour our Shared Wisdom, Accept Responsibility and Be Accountable for Implementing the Strategy.

Mission

By implementing the Poverty Reduction Strategy, the City of Winnipeg will demonstrate leadership by taking a proactive and responsive role in reducing poverty with community partners, including residents, businesses and community-based organizations, and with government bodies, including Indigenous, federal and provincial governments, to ensure that the basic needs of all residents are met. City services will be developed and delivered using a poverty reduction lens, and in a manner that fosters an inclusive, equitable, healthy, and vibrant city where everyone is cared for and can flourish.

Guiding Principles

- We will Uphold Human Rights
- We will Honour Relationships and Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples
- We will Address Systemic Oppression, Trauma, and Social Inequity
- We will Promote and Maintain the Welfare of all residents
- We will Develop Trust and Meaningful Partnerships to find solutions and drive change

SNAPSHOT OF POVERTY IN WINNIPEG

> 1 in 8
people live in poverty



13% or almost **91,940** people

1 in 4
Indigenous people
live in poverty



28% or **23,915** people

1 in 4
recent immigrants*
live in poverty



27% or **13,880** people
*Arrived within the last 5 years
of census collection date



Adopted by City Council on
November 25, 2021.



LIFE POLES

Amik (The Beaver) — Honouring our Shared Wisdom

Indigenous worldviews and the teachings from Amik (The Beaver in Ojibwe)—who represents Wisdom in the Seven Sacred Teachings—have guided the creation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy.



Two focus areas, or Life Poles, have been identified by stakeholders for enhanced and focused support to impact the cycle of poverty: Indigenous Children, Youth and Families, and Affordable Housing.

The term *Life Pole* is derived from the teachings of the tipi; this pole is the final one to be raised and has the critical role of supporting the canvas and, because of that, represents ultimate protection.

Achieving the Goals, Objectives and Actions will have broad, intersectional benefits and will require long-term and sustained effort through collaboration with municipal, provincial, federal and Indigenous governments, external agencies and other community partners.

Indigenous Children, Youth & Families Life Pole

The Strategy seeks to build support and resources, while decreasing inequities, for Indigenous children, youth and families throughout City programs and services.

By the numbers:

- 28% of Winnipeg residents who self-identify as Indigenous live in poverty.
- 18% of children, or 1 in every 5, experience poverty —double the national average.

How the City can take action:

- Reduce gaps in services and address both systemic barriers and access to services.
- Decrease barriers to Indigenous youth applying for jobs at the City of Winnipeg.

Affordable Housing Life Pole

Safe and adequate housing is a fundamental building block underlying health and equity for the residents of our city. Without safe, secure and affordable housing, the residents of Winnipeg who are experiencing poverty will have limited ability to improve their lives.

By the numbers:

- Households in ‘core housing need’ increased by 25% from 2011 to 2016, facing challenges in housing adequacy, affordability, and suitability.
- There are approximately 1,500 residents without any form of secure housing.

How the City can take action:

- As the land use regulator, tax assessor, and planner for growth, the City of Winnipeg can support and protect affordable housing.
- Work collaboratively with all levels of government on a combination of housing programs.
- Provide a greater regulatory and facilitative environment for the delivery of affordable housing.



Graphic illustrations by Cassy Regier

EIGHT GOAL AREAS

The Winnipeg Poverty Reduction Strategy is framed around Goals in eight key areas, accompanied by a set of 10-year Objectives and Shared Wisdom.

Goal 1 | Equity and a Culture of Caring are Demonstrated through Strategy Implementation & Systems Change

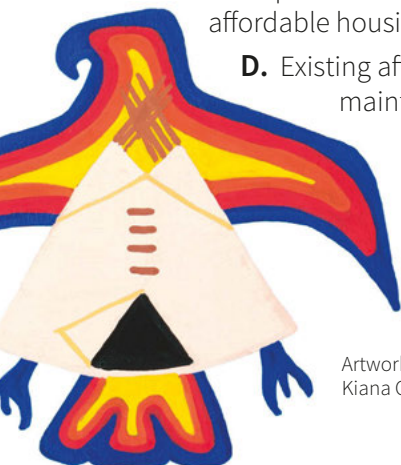
Objectives:

- A. City roles, responsibilities, and resources to implement the Strategy are clearly assigned.
- B. City decisions and actions are informed by Lived Experience perspectives, trusting relationships are established.
- C. Equity and a Culture of Caring are factored into all service planning and budget decisions, resulting in City-wide systems change.
- D. The City advocates for and pursues partnerships to implement the Strategy.
- E. The Strategy and Implementation Plans are monitored, evaluated and updated on a regular basis to ensure progress is made.

Goal 2 | The City Actively Plans for & Partners in Affordable Housing

Objectives:

- A. The City's capacity and commitment to advancing affordable housing initiatives are increased.
- B. The urgent housing needs of shelterless residents are addressed through proactive, multi-sectoral partnerships.
- C. Municipal tools, resources and partnerships are developed and used to encourage and facilitate affordable housing development.
- D. Existing affordable rental housing stock is maintained and improved.



Artworks by
Kiana Compton

Culture of Caring

A 'culture of caring' means being accountable for acting with empathy, accepting responsibility, prioritizing equity, and being both proactive and responsive to the needs of the community.



Goal 3 | Equity is Embedded in all City Employment & Income Opportunities

Objectives:

- A. Hiring and training programs are implemented that focus on equity, diversity, inclusion, reconciliation with Indigenous people, and poverty reduction.
- B. Support is provided to community-led income and employment initiatives for low-income people through partnerships, grants, and in-kind use of City assets and facilities.
- C. City purchasing power is leveraged to achieve social and community benefits.
- D. The City advocates for improved social and economic programs for low-income individuals and families (i.e. Living Wage, Basic Income, childcare, social support, youth employment), and leads by example through action, collaboration, and partnerships.

Goal 4 | Community Well-Being Supports for those in Greatest Need are Increased

Objectives:

- A. The immediate needs of residents experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness are met through collaboration with community partners and other levels of government.
- B. Front-line City employees have the knowledge, skills and resources to help connect residents to needed supports.
- C. Strategic partnerships to connect people to needed supports are developed.
- D. The City adopts a Harm Reduction approach to reduce the harms of substance use for residents.



EIGHT GOAL AREAS

Implementation Plans

Three Implementation Plans are scheduled over the next decade to align with the City's multi-year budget process. Actions in each plan will balance urgent needs and longer-term systems change.

Goal 5 | Transportation System Equity is Enhanced

Objectives:

- A. The affordability and accessibility of transportation and transit service is increased.
- B. Improvements to transportation and transit infrastructure and services prioritize areas of higher poverty, and increased interconnectivity to employment and affordable goods and services.
- C. Increased collaboration with community partners improves access to safe and secure transportation by all residents.

Goal 6 | All City Services are Equitable, Inclusive & Accessible

Objectives:

- A. Residents have equitable access to City services, in particular demographic groups who experience marginalization.
- B. Community development models and collaborative approaches are enhanced or initiated for service planning & delivery in areas of higher poverty.
- C. Use of City's tools and resources are maximized to reduce systemic inequities.

Goal 7 | Food Security & Food System Resilience is Expanded

Objectives:

- A. Food security is increased by working with community partners to provide access to sustainable, culturally relevant foods.
- B. The City's tools and resources are maximized to increase food security for residents in areas of higher need, particularly the shelterless population.

Goal 8 | Equity in Community Safety is Increased through Collaboration

Objectives:

- A. Community and equity-based approaches to safety are prioritized and resourced, particularly for First Nations, Métis Nation, Inuit, Black, Racialized and Religious Minority groups and in areas of higher poverty.
- B. There is increased safety and security of Indigenous women, girls, 2SLGBTQ+ people, and youth, as the City pursues partnerships and joint initiatives, and prioritizes safety in its decision-making.
- C. Systemic racism is removed and equity is increased in Winnipeg Police Service governance, recruitment, training, retention, policing practices, and community relationship-building.



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Co-Created in Partnership With:

MAKE POVERTY HISTORY
MANITOBA



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Ka Ni Kanichihk Inc.
"those who lead"

