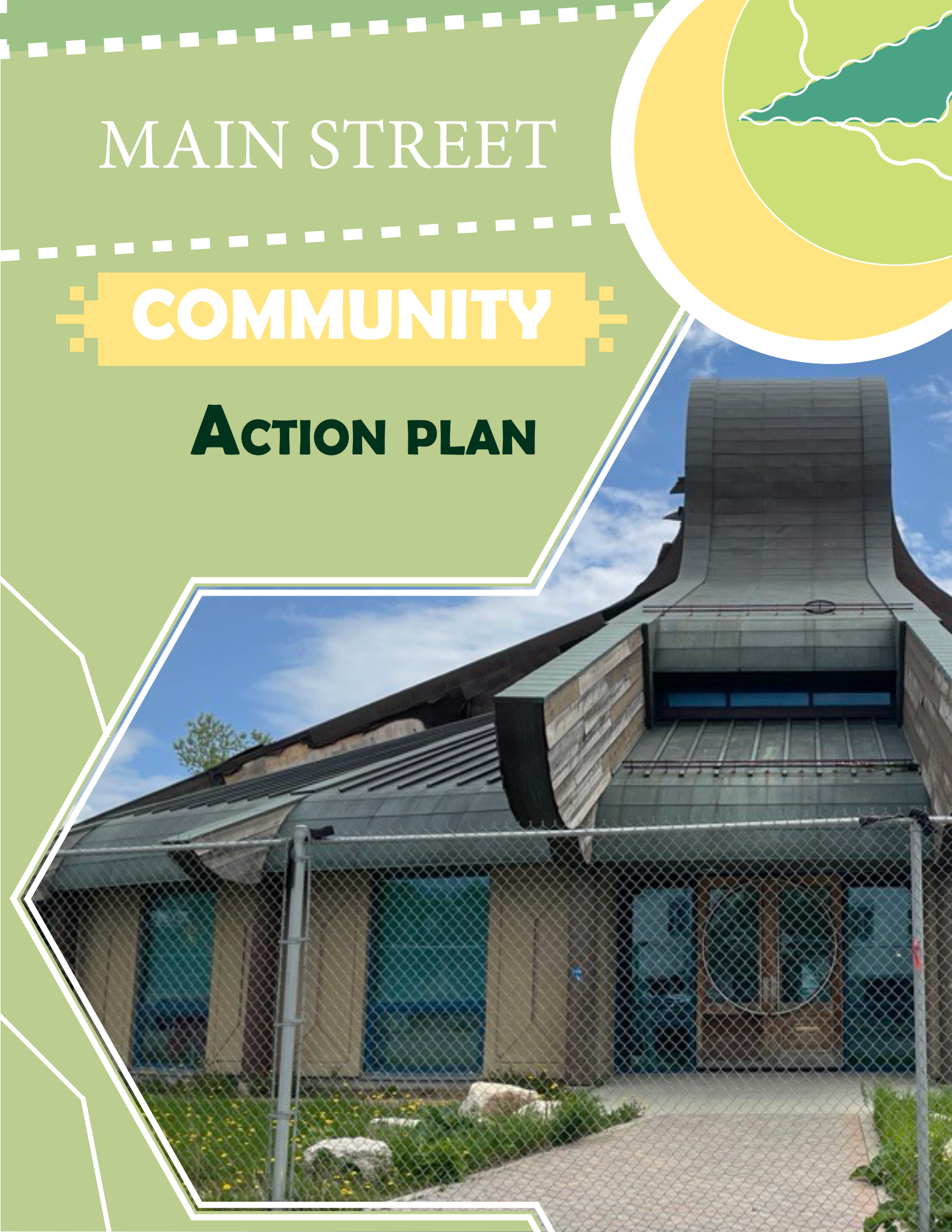


MAIN STREET

COMMUNITY

ACTION PLAN



DEFINED AREA

The area will be defined not by geographic area but with the idea that there is a core area with waves of interconnected neighbourhoods that connect & support the people that call this area home. The heart of the neighbourhood is the Circle of Life Thunderbird House & it will be what brings life into the community.

The strength of “the heart” will make the entire community stronger.



THE VISION

Building spaces for community where all people feel safe & connected to one another & the neighbourhood where there is a sense of beauty, love & hope & where all things that need to realize this dream are in place including housing, access to health services, recreation, cultural connections & natural & built beauty.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES & VALUES

- **Truth & Reconciliation**
UNDRIP, TRC Calls to Action, MMWIG2S+ Calls to Justice
- **Anti-oppression**
Anti-racism, inclusion & social justice
- **Human Rights-based**
Keeping human rights at the heart of planning
- **Harm Reduction**
Focused on reducing harm, low-barrier services & saving lives
- **Peer Led**
Peers with lived experience at the forefront
- **Collaboration**
Engaging all stakeholders in the process

CORE OBJECTIVES

Connections to Culture & Healing

- Goal #1: Taking advice & guidance from elders
- Goal #2: Restoring Thunderbird House physically & positioning it as the healing centre of the community
- Goal #3: Rebuilding sweat lodge at TBH
- Goal #4: Restorative justice circles, & new action items.

Harm Reduction

- Goal #1: Opening a safer consumption site in the community
- Goal #2: Developing community led safe supply program & managed alcohol program
- Goal #3: Community led training
- Goal #4: Coordinator community supply distribution
- Goal #5: Coordinator needle collection & cleanup

Safety

- Goal #1: Developing coordinated network of outreach
- Goal #2: Building directory of community services
- Goal #3: 24/7 public washrooms
- Goal #4: Policing & alternatives of policing
- Goal #5: Coordinator services
- Goal #6: Downtown hotel partnership strategy

Litter & Waste Management

- Goal #1: Reducing the use of disposables
- Goal #2: Increasing waste infrastructure
- Goal #3: Increasing cleanup and pickup frequency
- Goal #4: Ensuring full cooperation from the City
- Goal #5: Creating public awareness & community buy-in
- Goal #6: Implementing best practices

Beautification

- Goal #1: Naming the area
- Goal #2: Designating a community stage
- Goal #3: Traditional environment reclamation
- Goal #4: Developing a secondary plan for the area
- Goal #5: Increasing accountability of public services
- Goal #6: Developing amenities for the community

Neighbourhood Animation

- Goal #1: Creating a sense of community pride
- Goal #2: Creating community ownership program & managed alcohol program
- Goal #3: Creating a clean, lively space that the community is involved in building
- Goal #4: Ensuring more unity & cohesion between city divides
- Goal #5: Amplifying the voice of people who call this area home

ACTION PLAN

OBJECTIVE 1: CONNECTIONS TO CULTURE & HEALING

Creating pathways to the Circle of Life Thunderbird House for people to connect to culture & healing in the community



Taking Advice & Guidance from Elders

- Knowledge of age is two directional.
- Confirm that an Elders committee is coordinated.
- Ensure there are paid positions to support the committee.
- Elders' council
 - What is the location & logistics for elders (safety, parking, access, supports)
- Sustainability Funding model for the roles
- Central place for non-Indigenous groups to come for teachings.
- Ensure operations separate from elders' council
- Ensure they are protected from legal liability of board & operations.
- Onsite elders, always ensure someone is present (24-hour access)
- Utilize old notes from elders.
- Access to elders who are willing to work in this area.

- Create space of teachings for agencies of how to access elders, ceremonies & how to engage with elders in good way.

Restoring Thunderbird House Physically & Position as the Healing Centre for the Community

- Restore charitable status.
- Request all community agencies who are wanting to utilize the place for community members to help support obtaining a sustainability plan.
- Secure core funding required for capital & operations (3 levels of funding)
 - Increase stewardship (funding, Elders, Board)
 - Help restore the whole area of the Bird & not just the building but the landscaping too so people passing by are intrigued.
- Address harm & healing.
- Learning into the annual cycles
- Harvesting in correspondence of cycles.
- Safe Spaces for grief/healing that is trauma informed
 - What community access can be provided?
 - What was & is TBH? What is event venue capacity?
 - What teachings are held? What can we access as community space?
 - Ensure sound system is updated.

Rebuilding Sweat Lodge at the Circle of Life Thunderbird House

- Ensure there is sustainability & safety plan for the lodge.
- Determine who will be the lodge keepers & how this will be identified to community.
- Ensure there is an admin assistant to help facilitate the incoming requests & operational planning for the sweat lodge.
- Not leave full responsibility to the lodge keeper to do all planning.

- Determine who will operate the lodges & if they need administrative support.
- Make it a paid position.
- Is the space ready for this? Who will keep the care of the grounds? Will Skabes be paid to help keep grounds clean & sustained?

Restorative Justice Circles

- Even more relevant to tend to younger Indigenous population.
- Support CFS/Justice exiting.
- Require knowledge to those who facilitate this role.
- Ensure TBH is a hub for ceremony, & teachings.
- Sustain space which is family/value based.
- Can be an alternative to carceral system.
- TBH can be a model as center of city.
- Ensure more planning is applied prior as TBH needs core operational support such as sustainability funding plan for ED, Administrative support, maintenance supports, elders support, knowledge keepers & Skabes.
- Sustain relationship building.
- Correct harms within community & apply mediation around safety.
- Create a consistency of care.
- Governance to be fully Indigenous led to ensure Restorative Justice takes full effect.

New Action Items

- Create a Youth Committee.
- Create an events & ceremony calendar that is accessible to external parties (land-based activities/seasons).
- Structure ways to get feedback.
- Support elders from organizations to meet regularly at the Thunderbird House.
- Develop clear ways to access & direct teachings.
- Design a referral pathway for agencies to teachings to ensure they are always Indigenous led & operated.
- TBH to be a designated pathway for culture & ceremony teachings (referral process & follow up).
- Create a financial stability plan for TBH.



OBJECTIVE 2: HARM REDUCTION

Creating harm reduction & support services for the community. This includes Safe Consumption Sites, Safe Supply, Managed Alcohol Program, Coordinator Supply Distribution & Collection.

Opening a Safe Consumption Site to Provide a Safe Space for Community Members to Use Substances

- Indigenous & community led
- Include a variety of services & connections, ideally have a RAAM clinic, access to detox, treatment & housing.

Developing Community Led Safe Supply & Managed Alcohol Programs

- Provide direct intervention to ensure people have access to a safe supply of drugs.
- Provide access to managed alcohol programs.

Community Led Training

- All groups in the area to have access to harm reduction trainings & supports.

Coordinator Community Supply Distribution

- Ensure that supplies are available where people need them & accessible when people need them.

Coordinator Needle Collection & Clean-up

- De-stigmatize needles, provide education on risk.
- Ensure each garbage receptacle has a biohazard or needle drop box.
- Coordinated community collection of needles & supplies



OBJECTIVE 3: SAFETY

Creating people-centered safety plan for the community. One that brings people & supports around areas of concerns, follows restorative justice, & provides an alternative approach to addressing safety concerns for the area.

Developing a Coordinated Network of a 24/7 Outreach team based out of Thunderbird House

- Develop joint partnership & support agreements to coordinate community outreach.
- Design a sustainable centralized model.
- Support & enhance foot patrols like Bear Clan, Sabe Peacewalkers, Mama Bear Clam & Mitch B.
- Ensure outreach feels like it's community based.
- People centered caring on the street level but has a robust organized model on the backend to ensure strong communication & supports.
- Create pathways from the community to safe spaces.

Building a Directory of Services Available to All

- Expand the support of 211 & access to their directory.
- Take a “campus” approach where there are maps, emergency service aids & coordination of the area like a university campus.
- Develop community infrastructure including clocks, announcement boards, digital messaging etc.

Policing & Alternatives to Calling the Police

- Ensure that crisis response services are not police responses but those of community based crisis response teams.
- Develop a clear guide with alternatives to calling the police.
- Look at ways to ensure safety for community members when engaging with WPS.
- Get more WPS liaisons connected to community groups & organizations to allow for better communication & response to community concerns.

Downtown Hotel Strategy

- Develop a strategy to ensure Single Room Occupancy (SRO) is safe & healthy places for people to call home.
- Eliminate exploitation in hotels.
- Deploy business partnership strategies (North end, downtown & exchange district BIZ).

Coordinator Services

- Set up sector tours of the area & organizations to ensure better informed front-line staff & organizations.
- Create spaces for people to connect together & build relationships.
- Open up shared trainings opportunities to multiple organizations.
- Create a WhatsApp or social media group to allow for faster communication.
- Create a centralized shared drive accessible to all so each organization or agency can share documents & files with each other.



OBJECTIVE 4: LITTER & WASTE MANGEMENT PLAN

Developing a waste management plan to reduce litter & creating a cleaner neighbourhood for the community.

Reduce Disposables

- Take every opportunity to switch to non-disposable dishes.
- Undertake a food/meals/community organization & litter audit to look at all possibilities for folks to sit & eat off reusable dishes. Encourage sit-&-stay mealtimes.
- Partner with Green Action Centre for green audits & waste audits.
- Purchase & install new commercial dishwashers & use reusable dishes where possible.



Increase Cleanup & Pickup Frequency

- City of Winnipeg to empty bins when full, as often as needed; invest in clean ups from charity crews.
- Empty & lock bins daily or as needed based on the season.
- Increase bylaw enforcement for poor maintenance of large bins resulting in contents strewn everywhere. Explore requiring all business to have locked or secure bins.
- More frequently pressure wash the sidewalks.
- Invest in social enterprise cleaning crews like Siloam's MOST & DCSP's Clean Slate to do daily litter & monitoring of new bins. Relocate City of Winnipeg bins to hot spot areas along Henry, Logan & Princess, ensure they are lockable, & fund MOST to service them.

Ensuring Full Cooperation from the City
The City publicly states their commitment to addressing homelessness & as more people are forced to live unsheltered, waste in that space will inevitably increase with city services not keeping pace. Waste management is a service the City is tasked to manage. This includes Public Works fully cooperating with outreach organizations that are supporting people living in encampments who need help with waste removal. With mindful cooperation & flexibility, this issue can be managed very effectively together with the City, outreach workers & the people experiencing homelessness.



Best Practices
Dillon & the committee (which includes staff from Public Works) looked at what other municipalities have done to address the problem. Rather than ignoring the problem & leaving community organizations to deal with on their own, cities like Vancouver, Victoria & Edmonton have acknowledged & implemented a small city-wide levy to increase funding to keep the downtown area clean. We talked to Vancouver City staff to ask how they address waste in the Downtown East Side area, & they added more bins & increased pick up to daily.



- Increasing Waste Infrastructure**
- With funding from Winnipeg Foundation, purchase & install extra bins in high needs areas & add City bins in hotspots.
 - Install 2 Earth Bins in between Thunderbird House & Salvation Army (This is already scheduled to happen with TBH site development starting in spring).
 - Install 4 solar powered Belly Bins units on Main from Logan to Henry (\$10k x 4).
 - Install 2 solar powered Belly Bins units on Henry (\$10k x 2), one by the public washroom & one in Hope Alley by the Bell Hotel.

Community Involvement: Public Awareness, Monitoring, Evaluation & Continuous Improvement
The committee will organize awareness campaigns to educate residents & visitors supplying food about proper waste disposal, recycling practices, & the consequences of littering. They will regularly assess the progress of the waste management plan, analyze data on waste generation, recycling rates, & cleanliness of public spaces to identify areas of improvement. The committee will continuously seek feedback from residents & stakeholders to improve the waste management plan, & be open to adopting new strategies & technologies to make the neighborhood cleaner & greener.

OBJECTIVE 5: BEAUTIFICATION

Developing a strategy to bring art, trees, plants etc. to the area.
Build infrastructure that not only addresses the needs of the community but also adds art & vibrancy.

- Naming the Area**
Assigning a name to the area would have several benefits such as;
- **Identity Formation:** It helps establish its unique identity, distinguishing it from other areas.
 - **Unity:** It brings residents together, fostering a sense of unity & solidarity.
 - **Engagement & Representation:** It provides a hub for residents to express their concerns &

- participate in decision-making processes, & advocate for their interests.
- **Communication:** It makes it easier for community to communicate with one another & outside communities like the business community, government agencies, & other communities.



- Designating a Community Stage**
Having a community stage would promote several benefits including:
- **Promotion of Local Talent & Entertainment:** A community stage can help promote local talent & entertainment, providing emerging artists, performers, & community groups with exposure & opportunities to reach a wider audience.
 - **Engagement & Participation:** A stage acts as a hub for events, performances, & meeting in the community, enticing locals to congregate & take part in social, cultural, & educational activities.
 - **Cultural Expression & Creativity:** A community stage provides a platform for residents to display their talents & creativity.

- **Enhanced Community Pride & Well-Being:** Encouraging a sense of pride, ownership, & belonging among locals; shared sense of accountability/responsibility.
- **Celebration of Community Heritage & Identity:** Through performances, storytelling, & cultural events, a community stage can celebrate the rich heritage, traditions, & history of the local community.

Developing Amenities for the Community

- Public washroom
- Seating
- L&scaping at TBH & public washroom
- Cool streets
- Murals
- Green space developments

Accountability of Public Services

- Strengthen connections to City Waste collection.
- Community Services can be the connection to City services.



Developing Secondary Plan for the Area

- Assess & Review Infrastructure.
- Reclaim the narrative; Change negative perceptions of the community.
- Funding for a secondary plan is going to EPC this month.
- Grass on boulevards - expand opportunities (Downtown beautification)

Traditional Environment Reclamation

Restoring natural landscapes would foster several benefits including:

- **Improved Physical & Mental Health:** Green spaces provide opportunities for outdoor recreation, exercise, & relaxation which can lead to improved physical health & well-being.
- **Social Interaction & Community Cohesion:** Green spaces serve as gathering places where residents can socialize, connect with nature, & build community bonds.

- **Cultural Preservation:** Traditional Environment Reclamation allows Indigenous & local communities to reconnect with their cultural heritage by revitalizing traditional practices related to land management, agriculture, & resource stewardship.

OBJECTIVE 6: NEIGHBOURHOOD ANIMATION

Creating a vibrant space for the community to come together to celebrate community spirit through block parties, recreational activities & special occasions.



Creating a Sense of Community Pride

- Provide information on events that are occurring outside of the immediate area. Link community pride to a broader north end pride strategy.
- Establish a calendar of consistent annual events.
- Capitalize on Winnipeg 150, Thunderbird House 25.
- Events should be oriented to involve participants & be active. “Experiential” events should be a secondary priority, unless identified as important (i.e. certain ceremony events)
- Work needs to be done to understand what “community” & identity means for this area. What is the community agreed-upon name for this area? What are its geographic dynamics? How does it interact with adjacent neighbourhoods?
- Reticence to work too hard on this seems to come from fear that defining area will limit resources for folks serving the area but outside geographic boundaries. (Moderator feedback)
- Work with other sub-committees to determine how events can advance action items in other pillars. Collaboration seems to be particularly key in this pillar.



Creating Community Ownership

- Review best practices for community-oriented engagement methods (e.g. collective impact, participatory action research, etc.). Establish a framework that can be collectively agreed upon for engaging community effectively. This framework must include direct community ownership as a determinant of success.
- Determine facility & land opportunities that can be used for events (i.e. community centers, service provider open spaces, schools). Work with owners to establish usage agreements.
- Establish community group to work on a community-wide identity package. Aim will be to provide clarity on what the area identifies as to the community & the city at large.
- Perform a neighbourhood assessment of current recreation opportunities in the neighbourhood. Determine gaps in recreation interests & identify potential sites in or near the neighbourhood that could accommodate these interests.
- Move housing development to a dedicated sub-committee. Opportunity here to expand this to strategic land use planning broadly (Moderator feedback).
- These goals will require significant cooperation between organizations within the area to ensure consistent messaging on what priorities are needed from an amenities & development perspective.
- It appears there is uncertainty surrounding whether existing programming is effective & whether the community trusts the groups



focusing on neighbourhood animation. This will impact participation. Recommend work be done to establish thoughtful post-event analysis that establishes useful metrics to gauge success.

- The community is diverse & complex, but has a perception of being “one thing” - a service hub for individuals in need. Events can break this stigma by highlighting local talents.

More Unity & Cohesion between City Divides (Remove the Rails 2.0)

- Advocate for consolidated land use planning & funding strategies to reduce confusion. Advocate for community led engagement for all planning that impacts this area.
 - Advocate for a separate land use plan for the area. Consider combining north & south Point Douglas
- Advocate for land use changes that streamline development & provide more flexibility on development opportunities that will benefit the area.
 - Advocate for more sites to be rezoned to Multi-use Sector.
- Establish a sector/community table tasked with

creating a community champion that can advocate for community needs. Suggestions include a residence association, or neighbourhood renewal corporation.

- Link existing events & opportunities to neighbouring & city-wide events & opportunities (e.g. First Fridays, Festivals, Folklorama).
- Review previous North End Partnership Agreement. Determine efficacy of advocating for a new agreement.
- Move advocacy around planning & funding documents (Secondary Plans, C.A.R.E.) under the steering committee directly.

Creating a Clean, Open, Friendly, Energized Space that the Community is Involved in Building

- Build a comprehensive communications strategy for events.
 - Include consideration for events that focus on establishing identity & opportunities for broader Winnipeg.
- Activate Thunderbird House as a coordinator for events.
 - Supplement with “street team” that focuses on engaging community for events, service coordinator needs.
- Improve capacity at Thunderbird House to act as hub for coordinating community animation.
- Establish community resource for showcasing recent events & development. This could use existing resources, such as the North Point Douglas community newsletter.
- Establish linkages between sub-committees to coordinate communicating actions & outcomes to community.
- Establish a service-provider committee/task force aimed to coordinate services so community has better plurality of choice & prevents overlap between service delivery.
- Consider developing an events toolkit of resources that can be consistently provided at events.
- Consideration towards maximizing existing resources & prioritizing passive communication tools seems to be important. Many organizations are too busy to add time to ongoing communication if this were to be ramped up for the area.



Amplify the Voice of the People who Call this Area Home

- Create opportunities for the voices of community to be centered in the work & community.
- Explore documentaries or podcasts as outlets of bringing community voice to light.

PAST PARTICIPATION IN MAIN STREET COMMUNITY ACTION PLANNING

N'dinawemak-our-relatives-place
Ogijiita Pimatiswin Kinamatwin (OPK)
PIDIM Office
Pilgrim Baptist Church
Point Douglas Residents Committee
Province of Manitoba
The Red Road Lodge
Salvation Army
Siloam Mission
The Edge Gallery and Studio
The Winnipeg Foundation
Circle of Life Thunderbird House
Union Gospel Mission
United Way Winnipeg
Urban Systems
Vivian Santos, City Councillor
Winnipeg Police Service
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority
Youth For Christ Winnipeg
City of Winnipeg
Mitch Bourboniere
Arts Junktion
End Homelessness Winnipeg
Graffiti Gallery Art Programming
Aboriginal Council of Winnipeg
Mount Carmel Clinic
Ma Mawi Wi Chi Itata centre
 - Amoowigamig
 - Astum Api Niikinaahk
Aboriginal Health and Wellness
Anishiative
Community 204



*Is your organization part of the Main Street neighbourhood,
yet missing from this list?*

This work is ongoing and all are welcome to join!