



MANITOBA COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL CONTINUES TO REVIEW EXISTING GRANT APPLICATIONS, SEEKS ADMINISTRATIVE FUNDING

Winnipeg, MB, January 15, 2018 – For immediate release - After 34 years of assisting Manitobans with over 10,500 community projects, the Manitoba Community Services Council (MCSC) now seeks administrative funding to continue operations. The province of Manitoba has served notice to MCSC that effective April 1, 2018 the organization will no longer receive provincial funding to cover administrative costs. It is expected that without a new source of administrative funding MCSC will cease to exist. During this difficult time, as the organization searches for new sources of administrative funding on a very tight timetable, MCSC continues to review applications as funding has been received for the final fiscal quarter of the year, ending March 31, 2018.

Manitoba Community Services Council is an arms-length granting organization funded by the Province of Manitoba and Manitoba Liquor & Lotteries. Applications are accepted year round, from qualifying Manitoba based non-profit organizations that are volunteer driven.

“For MCSC to survive, the government needs to hear from Manitobans how MCSC has improved the lives of the people they serve. MCSC is grateful for the written support we’ve received to date and request that anyone that has been touched by funding support from MCSC to reach out to their local MLA and to Minister Jeff Wharton, Minister for Municipal Relations and the department MCSC reports to, and let them know how impactful the help of MCSC has been and how devastating the loss of program funding would be. The intangibles brought by the extensive experience of the volunteer board cannot be replicated within a government bureaucracy, and certainly not at a reduced cost,” said Jay Boaz, MCSC Chairperson.

Grant applications are regularly reviewed by a 12 person volunteer board consisting of representatives from across Manitoba, supported by three MCSC staff. The structure of MCSC removes politics from granting decisions and applications are viewed strictly on their own merits and according to MCSC grant allocation policies. With the support of volunteers and prudent fiscal management only 11% of MCSC’s total expenditures go towards administration. The value MCSC brings to organizations across Manitoba is not limited to fiscal responsibility.

In 2016-2017 MCSC supported over 200 organizations in rural and urban Manitoba by allocating \$2.2 million in grants. Grant recipients included, but not limited to, childcare centres, children & youth serving organizations, family & community support groups, recreation clubs and programs, healthcare groups, culture arts and heritage organizations, schools & educational groups, and qualifying emergency capital projects.

The province noted that should MCSC obtain a new source of administrative funding, granting funds distributed by MCSC may still be available to the organization to allocate after this quarter. A final decision on this important matter will be determined by February 2018. MCSC will continue to review existing grant applications and uphold its commitment to provincial granting, for as long as it has the capacity to do so.

Since 1984, the Manitoba Community Service Council (MCSC) has allocated grants to qualifying non-profit, volunteer community service, social service, recreation and health related organizations in Manitoba.

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Background information attached

Media inquiries and further information:

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MANITOBA COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL INC.

Backgrounder:

MANITOBA COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL DEDICATED TO ALLOCATING COMMUNITY GRANTS FOR 34 YEARS

- Over the past 34 years, MCSC has assisted more than 10,500 projects throughout Manitoba.
- MCSC's granting history over the past 34 years has leveraged over \$516 million from other sources to support initiatives, community development and the greater economy in Manitoba.
- MCSC granting allocations over the course of the 2016-2017 fiscal year were comprised of MCSC Council members reviewing and allocating \$1,478,980 and \$764,100 in Bingos to 229 groups for a total of \$2,243,080 granted.
- Over the 2016-2017 fiscal year MCSC's granted funds leveraged \$12,991,233 from other sources to support community initiatives and the broader Manitoba economy. Of note, 52% of MCSC's grant allocations in 2016-2017 were distributed to qualifying Manitoba based non-profit organizations that are volunteer driven in Rural Manitoba.

Grant Allocations by MCSC Target Group – 2016-2017

Child Care Centre (10%)	\$ 233,100
Children and Youth (8%)	\$ 190,600
Culture Art Heritage (9%)	\$ 199,000
Emergency Capital (7%)	\$ 152,500
Family and Community (32%)	\$ 708,800
Health (10%)	\$ 228,300
Recreation (14%)	\$ 314,900
Schools / Education (4%)	\$ 92,000
Seniors (6%)	\$ 123,880
TOTAL Grant Allocations (includes cash & bingo earnings)	\$ 2,243,080

MCSC Grant Allocations by Manitoba Region

Central (10%)	\$ 229,500
Eastman (11%)	\$ 252,700
Interlake (10%)	\$ 226,980
Northern (5%)	\$ 102,500
Parkland (5%)	\$ 116,600
Westman (11%)	\$ 242,700
Winnipeg (48%)	\$ 1,072,100
TOTAL Grant Allocations by MB Region (includes cash & bingo earnings)	\$ 2,243,080