Manitoba Cataloguing in Publication Data

Winnipeg (Man.).
Municipal Manual - 1904 -

Also available in French

Prepared by the City Clerk's Dept.
Issn 0713 = Municipal Manual - City of Winnipeg.

1. Administrative agencies - Manitoba - Winnipeg - Handbooks, manuals, etc.
2. Executive departments - Manitoba - Winnipeg - Handbooks, manuals, etc.
3. Winnipeg (Man.). City Council - Handbooks, manuals, etc.
4. Winnipeg (Man.) - Guidebooks. 5. Winnipeg (Man.) - Politics and government - Handbooks, manuals, etc. 6. Winnipeg (Man.) - Politics and government - Directories. I. Winnipeg (Man.). City Clerk's Department.

JS1797.A13 352.07127'43

Cover Photograph: The Provencher Twin Bridge and the Pedestrian walkway known as “Esplanade Riel”. The dramatic cable-stayed pedestrian bridge is Winnipeg’s newest landmark, and was officially opened on December 31, 2003.

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The City Clerk’s Department gratefully acknowledges the assistance of the Creative Services Branch in producing this document.
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To obtain information on The City of Winnipeg or obtain additional copies of the Municipal Manual, please:

• Phone City Hall Information at (204) 986-2171

To view this Municipal Manual online:

• Visit the City Clerk’s Web site at: www.winnipeg.ca

For archival information about The City of Winnipeg, please:

• Phone: (204) 986-5325
• Fax: (204) 986-7133
• Mail: City of Winnipeg Archives • 380 William Avenue
  Winnipeg • Manitoba • R3A 0J1
• Visit the City Clerk’s Web site at: www.winnipeg.ca
2004 marks the 100th anniversary of the City of Winnipeg’s Municipal Manual.

The Manual is compiled by the City Clerk’s Department utilizing numerous sources and contains material on civic affairs of both historical and current interest.

The Manual is a reference product which provides a snapshot of the City’s political and administrative structure, and guides the reader through the complexities of city government.

Winnipeg is a vibrant city in which its citizens embrace a culturally rich and ethnically diverse lifestyle. From its brisk winters replete with exciting festivals and celebrations, to its summers renowned for abundant sunshine, Winnipeg has much to offer. This manual endeavours to chronicle a measure of this well-rounded vibrancy.

I hope you find this Municipal Manual an enjoyable and informative resource.

RICHARD KACHUR
City Clerk
Message from Mayor Sam Katz

It is my pleasure to present to you the new Municipal Manual on behalf of my colleagues on City Council. I am sure you will find this manual to be an informative and beneficial guide to Winnipeg.

Whether you want to learn about our city’s exciting attractions, vibrant history, or political and administrative processes, this guide will assist you in finding the answers you need.

For easier convenience, the information in this manual can also be viewed at the The City of Winnipeg Home Page at www.winnipeg.ca

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this manual, please feel free to contact our City Clerk’s Department at 986-2171.

Sam Katz
Mayor of Winnipeg
Message from the Chief Administrative Officer

It is my pleasure, on behalf of all civic staff, to join Mayor Katz and Winnipeg’s City Council in presenting this new Municipal Manual.

We hope you will find it to be both accessible and helpful in obtaining information about the whole range of civic services we provide. You can be sure our goal is to assist you in all your dealings with civic government so that, together, we continue to build a city whose quality of life is second to none.

ANNITTA STENNING
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Welcome
to Winnipeg!
Symbology . . . What’s in a name?

Winnipeg’s Symbols

Coat of Arms

The City has had two official coats of arms or crests in its history. The original bore the motto, “Commerce, prudence, industry.” Elements shown on the crest included a bison, once very common on the prairie, a steam engine to represent the coming of the railroad to Winnipeg, and sheaves of wheat to symbolize the staple crop that brought prosperity to a young city.

Winnipeg’s current official Coat of Arms was granted by the College of Heralds in London, England. On January 24, 1973, Council adopted this crest, which symbolizes both the events of unification and the traditional heritage of the combined areas.

The significance of the emblazonry upon the crest is as follows:

The Fort Garry Gate at the top represents Winnipeg’s early history as a Hudson’s Bay fur trading centre. Beneath the gate is a shield divided into two parts. The top part contains thirteen gold stars on a blue field, symbolizing the thirteen former municipal governments that were unified to create the new City.
The blue background depicts Winnipeg’s clear blue skies. Below the sky, a prairie crocus upon a plain green field represents Winnipeg’s location as a prairie City.

The ribbons at the top and bottom represent the ribbon that ties the community together.

The motto of the crest, “UNUM CUM VIRTUTE MULTORUM” is Latin for “One with the strength of many”. Two thoughts lie behind this motto. Firstly, Winnipeg is perhaps uniquely one city formed of people of all races; and secondly, it is one city formed from many cities.

City Logo

The Winnipeg Logo captures the spirit, energy and diversity of our City while balancing a sense of our heritage with our progressiveness. It is also an interpretive depiction of our character, our people and our landscape, making it uniquely Winnipeg. Though each person who sees the symbol will ultimately apply his/her own set of values and meanings, each of the logo elements carries with it a theme that represents Winnipeg.

The two crescents atop the sweeping plane symbolize an embrace reminiscent of the caring, friendly and welcoming nature of the people here. The depiction of movement in these two elements alludes to the momentum and dynamism that is evident throughout the City. The sweeping line that supports the two crescents represents the vast horizon line and open sky that is characteristic of Winnipeg.
The red circle in the centre of the logo symbolizes the heart of our community and our people. It is also suggestive of the fact that Winnipeg is located at the centre of the country and the continent.

The rich colour palette symbolizes the diversity that exists in our cultures, our seasons and our crisp, clean, beautiful landscapes. As a whole, the graphic resembles a rising sun above the horizon and also mimics the form of a leaping figure. These combined elements depict the energy and momentum of our forward-looking nature, while the positioning line speaks to the strength of our character.

City Flag

On October 1, 1975, Council adopted the flag of The City of Winnipeg. The flag consists of the City Crest on a field of blue and yellow. The blue field indicates the city’s clear blue skies and the yellow represents golden wheat fields, the original basic economy of the City.

The blue and yellow design was adopted as the official colours for the City’s Centennial celebrations in 1974.

Chain of Office

The Mayor wears the ceremonial Chain of Office on civic occasions. It was originally cast in silver and consists of 13 coats of arms representing 12 former municipal governments and The City of Winnipeg, which were unified into one large city in 1972. The centre plate carries the names of the mayors elected to office since unification. In 1998, the Mayor’s Chain of Office was reproduced in 14K gold.
We are a city with a rich ethno-cultural mix and People from around the world call Winnipeg . . . Home!

**Vibrant, Dynamic and Diverse**

**Facts about Winnipeg**

With an ethnically diverse population of 631,200, Winnipeg is the eighth largest city in Canada and dominates the Manitoba economy.

Indeed, Winnipeg is open for business. Boasting the most diverse economy in Canada, with competitive operating costs, and among the lowest hydro rates in North America, its location in the centre of the continent means that the city benefits from being in North America’s central time zone. Manitoba is bordered by Ontario to the east, Saskatchewan to the west, and North Dakota and Minnesota to the south. To the north is Hudson’s Bay. This central geographic location further strengthens trade links, as well as the Winnipeg International Airport’s 24-hour operating schedule.

Winnipeg has grown steadily over the years, and top ranked industries include: aerospace manufacturing, agribusiness, garment and apparel industries, environmental stewardship, film production, financial services, health and biotechnology research, information technology and transportation equipment manufacturing.

Among the city’s major strengths are the following:

- Winnipeg has the most diversified secondary manufacturing base of any Canadian city, well supported by an equally varied range of service industries.
• The Winnipeg International Airport is one of the few international airports operating around the clock, 7 days a week. It is the only 24-hour operational airport between Toronto and Calgary.

• A stability characterized by predictable rates of population, housing, and labour force growth.

• Good quality residential neighbourhoods offering affordable housing and a unique system of over 70 community centres.

• Ample recreational opportunities highlighted by the rivers which accommodate boating and an award winning river walk system, as well as providing a scenic setting for excellent regional parks and a multitude of golf courses.

• An active resident population that has repeatedly demonstrated excellence in hosting special events such as the 1967 and 1999 Pan American Games, the 1991 and 1998 Grey Cup Game’s. The 1999 World Junior Hockey Championships, the 2002 North American Indigenous Games and the 1991 and 2003 World Curling Championships.

• A downtown, which can be reached from any point in the city in a short period of time. In spite of the trend towards strong suburban growth, the downtown continues to be a vibrant shopping, entertainment, and cultural centre of the city.

• A centre of higher education in western Canada. The University of Manitoba is internationally renowned for its agricultural research and the Asper School of Business. The Collège Universitaire de Saint-Boniface, affiliated with the University of Manitoba, is an important centre for French learning in the prairie provinces.
The University of Winnipeg houses the Institute of Urban Studies, known for its research into urban affairs. Red River College provides training in various fields, and offers more than 90 full-time certificate, diploma, advanced diploma and joint degree programs.

Winnipeg’s downtown is expansive and diverse. With the historic Portage and Main intersection at its heart, the downtown area stretches from the Osborne Bridge in the south-west, to the Disraeli Freeway in the north-east; from the Forks in the south-east to the Central Park Community in the north-west. This area encompasses 316 hectares or 3.2 square kilometres (780 acres or 1.2 square miles), is framed along two sides by 3.5 kilometres (2.2 miles) of riverbank, is crisscrossed by 25 miles of roadway, and is accessed by seven bridges accommodating pedestrian, rail, and vehicular traffic.

Home for City Hall and the Provincial Legislature, the downtown also boasts a large 20-block historic warehouse area called the Exchange District (which is a National Historic Site), a rejuvenated Chinatown, residential areas, a variety of restaurants and night clubs, a public market, the largest interconnected shopping area in the city, a prestigious business boulevard, a variety of cultural facilities, an active convention centre, an extensive sheltered walkway system, numerous parks including a national historic park at The Forks, and many waterfront facilities including riverwalks, boat docks, and cruise boat launches.
Winnipeg has a continental-type climate, enjoying four distinct seasons. There are significant temperature variations through the year generally ranging from highs of +35 degrees Celsius (+95 degrees Fahrenheit) to lows of -40 degrees Celsius (-40 degrees Fahrenheit). The average annual precipitation is approximately 535 millimetres (21 inches) per year, of which about 125 millimetres (5 inches) falls as snow. The City is the sunshine capital of Canada, with over 2,300 hours of sun annually.

Flooding in the Red River Valley

The Red River originates in South Dakota and flows north, forming the boundary between North Dakota and Minnesota, to enter Canada at Emerson, Manitoba. From the border, the river continues northward for 250 kilometres to Lake Winnipeg. Consequently, the City of Winnipeg, centred where the Red and Assiniboine Rivers flow into each other, is particularly susceptible to flooding.

There have been a number of large floods over the years, including the floods of 1826 and 1950, but nothing compares to the “Flood of the Century” in 1997.

After a record setting blizzard in April 1997 severe flooding occurred in the Red River Valley. On April 21, the Province activated the Red River Floodway (a flood protection system completed in 1968 and also know as Duff’s Ditch), and evacuees from southern Manitoba began to arrive in Winnipeg. The Mayor declared a State of Emergency on April 23 and ordered the first mandatory evacuation within City limits. Over 70,000 citizen volunteers, 3,000 military personnel and 3,000 civic employees were directly involved in flood-fighting and recovery activities.
Due to the immense effort of people and the engineering marvel of the Floodway, the City did not sustain major damage. More than 2,300 properties were evacuated and 54 city homes were flooded. Flood clean-up costs were approximately $50 million, most of which were eligible for recovery from the Federal Government.

Floodway Expansion Project

The existing floodway is presently undergoing a major expansion. The Province of Manitoba has appointed a “Floodway Expansion Interim Management Authority”, to oversee the entire floodway project including negotiations on project financing, liaising with other levels of government, local communities and the private sector.

The cost of completing the full expansion is estimated at $658 million and is expected to protect the City of Winnipeg from future floods. The funding agreement of $160 million between the federal and provincial governments is the largest federal-provincial infrastructure partnership in Manitoba since the construction of the original floodway. The partnership paves the way for a thorough environmental assessment of an expanded floodway and is expected to generate hundreds of millions of dollars in economic benefits and thousands of jobs.

Expansion of the floodway builds on the $130 million in federal and provincial funding to improve flood protection for rural homes and businesses throughout the Red River Valley from the Canada/U.S. border to Lake Winnipeg. As a result of this work, 90 per cent of the rural areas of the Red River Valley are protected against a flood similar in size to 1997.
Winnipeg has a vibrant cultural scene, which offers a wide spectrum of events and attractions for residents and visitors.

World Class Cultural Attractions

Major Events and Attractions

Culturally, Winnipeg is home to the world famous Royal Winnipeg Ballet, one of the most prestigious dance troupes on the globe. Its cultural counterparts include: The Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra and Manitoba Opera Association. The Winnipeg Art Gallery houses the world’s largest collection of Inuit stone sculpture. The Manitoba Museum of Man and Nature is the keeper of the Hudson’s Bay Collection and the only four-star attraction in western Canada, according to the Michelin Guide. The Manitoba Theatre Centre is the oldest regional English-language theatre in the Canada and has featured many famous screen actors such as Keanu Reeves, Kathleen Turner, William Hurt and Judd Hirsh. The Manitoba Music Festival held in the city is the largest of its kind in Canada.

In addition, the City has many professional sports teams, including the Winnipeg Blue Bombers Football Team, the Manitoba Moose Hockey Team, and the Winnipeg Goldeyes Baseball Team. In addition, the Winnipeg Goldeyes has the new CanWest Global Baseball Park, which opened in 1999 and is strategically located across from the Red River and Waterfront Drive and adjacent to The Forks National Historic site. The Manitoba Moose will also enjoy a new sports complex with the completion of the MTS Centre in the fall of 2004. It is located on the former site of the old Eaton’s store on Portage Avenue and is expected to transform the downtown area.
Each summer Winnipeg becomes a city of festivals, visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors from around the world. The Winnipeg Folk Festival is the largest folk music festival on the continent, whereas The Fringe Festival is the second largest in North America. Freeze Frame is an international festival of film for kids of all ages. The largest and longest running festival of its kind in the world is Folkorama, which is held annually. It is dubbed an international “Super Event” by the American Bus Association. We also have the Jazz Winnipeg Festival, Winnipeg International Writers Festival, Festival du Voyageur and the Taste of Manitoba to name just a few. Winnipeg is also a previous winner of two national contests: Communities in Bloom Award and Winter Lights Celebration competition making Winnipeg beautiful in summer and winter.

The Forks, comprised of The Forks Market, the National Historic Site, Port and Riverwalk is the busiest of spots - winter and summer. It is located at the historic junction of the Red and Assiniboine Rivers, directly behind VIA Rail Station, and has been attracting visitors for more than 6,000 years. The redevelopment of the 56-acre waterfront property means there is always something to do, to see, or to participate in. Here you can discover archaeological digs, a fresh produce market, arts and craft kiosks, the Manitoba Children’s Museum, restaurants, buskers, and lots of outdoor concerts. It is also the future home of a new boutique hotel called The Inn at The Forks which will be a 5 storey, 117 room hotel and will include a dining room, lounge, banquet facilities and a large spa. The Forks is also the future site for the $270.5 million Canadian Museum for Human Rights.
This project will promote and teach human rights and will include a visitor facility of international scope and calibre aimed at educating Canadians of all ages and international visitors. It is anticipated that this project will have a significant and profound impact on downtown development, increased tourism and educational opportunities.

A national newspaper described Winnipeg as the “cultural cradle of the nation” and spoke of the amazing number of musicians, artists, dancers, writers, actors, poets, and filmmakers who have burst onto the national and international scene.

Winnipeg is continuously reviving its downtown. Four of Winnipeg’s first commercial buildings have been incorporated into the new Red River College Campus in the historic Exchange District. The MTS Centre, the city’s new sports and entertainment complex, is under construction in the heart of the downtown.

The diversity of Winnipeg ensures that all cultures are respected and celebrated. Over 900 restaurants ensure that the most adventurous or conservative palates can find exactly what they desire.

*Further information on Winnipeg’s many attractions and events can be found on the following web sites:*

A Taste of Manitoba Food Festival  

Aboriginal Centre of Winnipeg Inc.  
For information, call (204) 989-6383 or (204) 989-6605  
[www.abcentre.org](http://www.abcentre.org)

Aquatic Hall of Fame and Museum of Canada (Pan Am Pool)  
For information, call (204) 986-5890  
[www.winnipeg.ca/cms/pools/hall/default.stm](http://www.winnipeg.ca/cms/pools/hall/default.stm)
Assiniboia Downs Horse Racing
For information, call (204) 885-3330
www.assiniboia downs.com

Assiniboine Park Conservatory
For information, call (204) 986-6761
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/ape/conservatory/conservatory.stm

Assiniboine Park Zoo
For information, call (204) 986-2327
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/ape/zoo

Associated Manitoba Arts Festival
For information, call (204) 945-4578
www.amaf.mb.ca/contributors.htm

Boo at the Zoo - The Zoological Society of Manitoba
For information, call (204) 982-0660
www.zoosociety.com

Canad Inns Winter Wonderland
For information, call (204) 888-6990
www.redriverex.com/winter.htm

Caripeg Carnival
For information, call (204) 254-6411
www.caripeg.com

Celebrations Dinner Theatre
For information, call (204) 982-8282
http://www.celebrations.ca/celebrations
Centre culturel franco-manitobain  
For information, call (204) 233-8972  
www.ccfm.mb.ca

Circle of Life Thunderbird House  
For information, call (204) 940-4240  
www.thunderbirdhouse.mb.ca

Clothing and Textiles Museum  
For information, call (204) 474-8066  
www.umanitoba.ca/academic/faculties/human_ecology/ctmuseum/

Corydon Avenue BIZ  
For information, call (204) 284-3700  
www.corydonbiz.com

Costume Museum of Canada  
For information, call (204) 853-2166  
www.costumemuseum.com

Dalnavert Museum  
For information, call (204) 943-2835  
www.mhs.mb.ca

Destination Winnipeg  
For information, call (204) 943-1970  
www.destinationwinnipeg.ca

Downtown Winnipeg Biz  
For information, call (204) 958-4640  
www.downtown-wpg-biz.mb.ca

FMG Dragon Boats - Manitoba Dragon Boat Festival  
For information, call 1-888-679-4222  
www.facilitymarketing.com.mb.htm
Exchange District  
For information, call 942-6716  
www.exchangedistrict.org

Le Festival du Voyageur  
For information, call (204) 237-7692  
www.festivalvoyageur.mb.ca

Festival of Lights Parade  
For information, call (204) 831-5586  
www.festivaloflights.homestead.com

The Fire Fighters Museum of Winnipeg  
For information, call (204) 942-4817  
www.winnipegfiremuseum.ca

The Floating Gallery  
For information, call (204) 942-8183  
www-floating.org

Folk Arts Council of Winnipeg Inc.  
(Folklorama)  
For information call (204) 982-6210 or  
No charge dial 1-800-665-0234  
www.folklorama.ca

Forks National Historic Site  
For information, call (204) 983-6757  
www.parkscanada.pch.gc.ca/lhn-nhs/mb/forks/index_e.asp
The Forks
For information, call (204) 942-6302
www.theforks.com

Fort Whyte Centre
For information, call (204) 989-8355
www.fortwhyte.org

Freeze Frame International Film Festival for Kids
For information, call (204) 943-5341
www.freezeframeonline.org

Grant’s Old Mill
For information, call (204) 986-5613 (summer)
or (204) 837-1775

The Heritage Centre - La Société Historique de Saint-Boniface
For information, call (204) 233-4888
www.shsb.mb.ca

Imax Theatre
For information, call (204) 956-2011
www.imaxwpg.com
J.B. Wallis Museum of Entomology
For information, call (204) 474-9257
www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/entomology/jbwallis.html

Jazz Winnipeg Festival
For information, call (204) 989-4656
www.jazzwinnipeg.com

Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada Inc.
For information, call (204) 477-7466
www.jhcwc.mb.ca

Le Cercle Molière
For information, call (204) 233-8053
www.cerclemoliere.com

Leo Mol Sculpture Garden – Assiniboine Park
For information, call (204) 986-6531
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/ape/conservatory/gardens.stm

Living Prairie Museum
For information, call (204) 832-0167
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/parks/envserv/interp/living.htm

Lyric Theatre at Assiniboine Park
For information, call (204) 888-5466
www.winnipeg.ca/cms/ape/lyric/default.stm

Manitoba Chamber Orchestra
For information, call (204) 783-7377
www.manitobachamberorchestra.org
Manitoba Children’s Museum
For information, call (204) 924-4000
www.childrensmuseum.com

Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library
For information, call (204) 487-6117
www3.mb.sympatico.ca/~craftsm/index.html

Manitoba Electrical Museum
For information, call (204) 477-7905
www.hydro.mb.ca/about_us/electrical_museum.shtml

Manitoba Moose
For information, call (204) 987-7825
www.moosehockey.com

Manitoba Opera
For information, call (204) 780-3333
www.manitobaopera.mb.ca

Manitoba Sports Hall of Fame and Museum
For information, call (204) 774-0002
www.halloffame.mb.ca

Manitoba Theatre Centre
For information, call (204) 942-6537 or 1-877-446-4500
www.mtc.mb.ca

Manitoba Theatre for Young People
For information, call (204) 942-8898
www.mtyp.ca

Mennonite Genealogy Inc.
For information, call (204) 772-0747

Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery
For information, call (204) 888-6781
www.mennonitechurch.ca/programs/gallery

My Winnipeg
www.mywinnipeg.com
National Screen Institute (NSI)
For information, call (204) 956-7800 or 1-800-952-9307
www.nsi-canada.ca

Naval Museum of Manitoba
www.naval-museum.mb.ca

New Music Festival (Centara Corporation)
For information, call (204) 949-3950
www.wso.mb.ca

Oak Hammock Marsh Interpretive Centre
For information, call (204) 467-3300 or 1-888-50-MARSH (62774)
www.ducks.ca/ohmic/index.html

Osborne Village BIZ
For information, call (204) 474-1008
www.escape.ca/~ovbiz

Paddlewheel - River Rouge Boat and Bus Tours
For information, call (204) 944-8000
www.paddlewheelcruises.com

Partners in the Park - Pooh Friendship Day
For information, call (204) 888-5466
www.partnersinthepark.org/pooh

Plug In Gallery
For information, call (204) 942-1043
www.plugin.org
Prairie Dog Central Steam Train
For information, call (204) 832-5259
www.vintagelocomotivesociety.mb.ca

Prairie Theatre Exchange (PTE)
For information, call (204) 942-5483
www.pte.mb.ca

Rainbow Stage
For information, call (204) 780-7328
www.rainbowstage.net

Red River Exhibition Park
For information, call (204) 888-6990
www.redriverex.com

Riel House National Historic Site of Canada
For information, call (204) 257-1783 or 233-4888
www.parkscanada.gc.ca/riel

Ross House Museum
For information, call (204) 947-0559
www.mhs.mb.ca/info/museums/ross/index.shtml

Royal Canadian Mint
For information, call (204) 257-3359 (Tours)
www.mint.ca

Royal Winnipeg Ballet
For information, call (204) 956-0183
www.rwb.org
Shakespeare in the Ruins
   For information, call (204) 957-1752
   www.shakespeareintheruins.com

Site Gallery
   For information, call (204) 942-1618
   www.sitegallery.ca

Spiritfest - The Forks
   For information, call (204) 942-6302
   www.theforks.com/index/spiritfest

St. Boniface Museum
   For information, call (204) 237-4500

St. Norbert Arts Centre
   For information, call (204) 269-0564
   www.snacc.mb.ca

St. Norbert Provincial Park
   For information, call (204) 948-3333 or 1-888-482-2267
   www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/parks/heritage_parks/st_norbert.html

Teddy Bears’ Picnic
   For information, call (204) 787-4040
   winnipeg.ca/filmandculture/festivals/TeddyBear.stm

The Manitoba Museum and Planetarium
   For information, call (204) 943-3139 or 956-2830
   www.manitobamuseum.ca

Transcona Historical Museum
   For information, call (204) 222-0423
   www.transconamuseum.mb.ca

Travel Manitoba Canada
   For information, call 1-800-665-0040
   www.travelmanitoba.com
Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre
For information, call (204) 942-0218
www.oseredok.org

Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Manitoba Branch
For information, call (204) 582-7346
www.umc.sk.ca

University of Manitoba – Bison Sports
For information, call (204) 474-8346
wwwumanitoba.ca/faculties/physed/athletics

University of Winnipeg - Wesmen Athletics
For information, call (204) 786-9349
www.wesmen.ca

West End Cultural Centre
For information, call (204) 783-6918
www.wecc.ca

Western Canada Aviation Museum Inc.
For information, call (204) 786-5503
www.wcam.mb.ca

Winnipeg Art Gallery
For information, call (204) 786-6641
www.wag.mb.ca

Winnipeg Blue Bombers
For information, call (204) 784-2583
www.bluebombers.com

Winnipeg Chinese Cultural and Community Centre
For information, call (204) 943-2627
www.wcccc.ca

Winnipeg Comedy Festival
www.winnipegcomedyfestival.com
Winnipeg Commodity Exchange Inc.
For information, call (204) 925-5000
www.wce.ca

Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers
For information, call (204) 452-0229
winnipeg.ca/filmandculture/dance/Wpg
ContemporaryDancers.stm

Winnipeg Film Group
For information, call (204) 925-3451
www.winnipegfilmgroup.mb.ca/index.cfm

Winnipeg Flying Club
For information, call (204) 338-7927
www.wfc.mb.ca

Winnipeg Folk Festival
For information, call (204) 231-0096
www.wpgfolkfest.mb.ca

Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival
For information, call (204) 942-6537 or 1-877-446-4500
www.winnipegfringe.com

Winnipeg Goldeyes Baseball Club
For information, call (204) 982-2273
www.goldeyes.com

Winnipeg International Air Show
For information, call (204) 257-8400
www.winnipegairshow.mb.ca
Winnipeg International Children’s Festival
For information, call (204) 958-4733
www.kidsfest.ca

Winnipeg International Writer’s Festival
For information, call (204) 927-7323
www.winnipegwords.com

Winnipeg Oktoberfest
For information, call (204) 957-4535
www.winnipegoktoberfest.com/home.html

Winnipeg Police Museum
For information, call (204) 986-3976
www.winnipeg.ca/police/Museum/museum.htm

Winnipeg Public Library - Millennium Library
For information, call (204) 986-6450
http://wpl.winnipeg.ca/library

Winnipeg Railway Museum
For information, call (204) 942-4632
www.icenter.net/~prs

Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
For information, call (204) 949-3999
www.wso.mb.ca
What do birch bark canoes, classic architecture and general strikes have in common? They are all part of Winnipeg’s history.

The Past and the Present

Historical Events

Though there had been fur trading posts in Winnipeg and its surrounding area since 1738, the first permanent settlement occurred in 1812 when a group of Scottish crofters arrived. Winnipeg was incorporated as a city on November 8, 1873 with a population of 1,869 people. The arrival of the Canadian Pacific Railway in 1885 brought a 30-year period of growth and prosperity unequalled in Canadian urban development. A flood of immigrants, high wheat prices, plentiful capital, and improved farming techniques contributed to making Winnipeg the wholesale, administrative, and financial centre of western Canada. Following World War I, economic stagnation due to low wheat prices and the Depression lasted well into the 1940’s.

1670 May 2 - Charter granted by King Charles II to “The Governor and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson’s Bay” (Hudson’s Bay Company). This charter deeded to the Hudson’s Bay Company “all that territory draining into the rivers flowing into Hudson’s Bay”. Thus the greater portion of the Dominion of Canada came into possession of the Hudson’s Bay Company and so remained until 1869, when the company relinquished its territorial rights to the Dominion of Canada.
1738 Fur trading post of Fort Rouge established.

1812 Lord Selkirk's Colonists reached the banks of the Red River where Winnipeg now stands.

1816 Governor Semple killed at Seven Oaks.

1820 St. John's College founded, oldest seat of learning in Western Canada.

1822 Fort Garry (formerly Fort Gibraltar) erected.

1835 Fort Garry rebuilt.

1835 First Government for the Red River settlement organized.

1855 February 28 - First post office in Western Canada opened. William Ross appointed Postmaster.

1859 First steamboat navigating the upper Red River reached Fort Garry.

1869 Transfer of land by Hudson's Bay Company to the Dominion of Canada.

1869 Uprising of Metis population under leadership of Louis Riel.

1870 Thomas Scott, opponent of Louis Riel, shot March 4th by order of Riel.

1870 Military expedition from Eastern Canada led by Colonel Garnet Wolseley reached Fort Garry. Louis Riel fled to the United States and uprising was terminated.
1870 Province of Manitoba formed and became the fifth province in the Dominion of Canada.

1873 November 8 - Winnipeg incorporated; four wards with three aldermen for each ward.

1873 City limits bounded on north by Burrows Avenue west of Main Street, and Aberdeen Avenue east of Main Street; on south by Assiniboine River; on east by Red River; and on the west by Maryland Street, Notre Dame Avenue and McPhillips Street.

1874 January 19 - 12:00 Noon. First meeting of City Council held on the second floor of Bentley’s new building at northwest corner of Portage Avenue and Main Street.

1874 September 16 - First Civic Holiday observed.

1875 City limits extended to Aberdeen Avenue between Main Street and McPhillips Street.

1876 First City Hall and Theatre erected.

1876 October 12 - First shipment of wheat exported from the Province of Manitoba (857 1/6 bushels at 85 cents per bushel). Exported by Higgins & Young, Winnipeg; consigned to Steele Bros., Toronto.

1877 University of Manitoba founded.
1877 Arrival in Winnipeg of C.P.R. Engine No. 1, Countess of Dufferin.

1878 First railway service to Winnipeg from St. Paul, Minnesota.

1878 First telephone brought to Winnipeg by Mr. H. McDougall.

1880 R.M. of St. Boniface annexed part of St. Vital.

1880 R.M. of Assiniboia incorporated.

1882 Ward One, being the district known as Fort Rouge, taken into the City. Wards increased to six in number.

1882 City limits extended north to Kitchener Avenue and lane north of Luxton Avenue; south of Wilkes Avenue, Waverley Street, lane south of Parker Avenue to Red River and west to Keewatin Street, St. James Street and west boundary of Parish of St. Boniface (86 feet west of Kenaston Boulevard).

1882 First water supply in Winnipeg from Assiniboine River.

1882 First street railway system inaugurated (horse drawn cars).

1883 Town of St. Boniface incorporated out of R.M. of St. Boniface.

1884 Council reduced to two aldermen for each ward.
1884  July 19 - Due to chronic structural problems of the first City Hall, a second City Hall was built and the Corner stone was laid by Mayor Alexander Logan.

1884  December 8 - Inauguration of ballot system of voting at municipal elections in Winnipeg.

1885  November 16 - Louis Riel hanged for leading two Metis uprisings and for the 1870 execution of Thomas Scott.

1886  July 1 - First railway train over the Canadian Pacific Railway from Montreal to Vancouver.

1886  Second City Hall completed.

1892  First electric streetcars inaugurated.

1893  R.M. of Rosser organized.

1893  First meeting of the Winnipeg Public Parks Board.

1897  Fort Garry Gateway presented to City by Hudson’s Bay Company.

1899  City of Winnipeg purchased Water Works Company and, from 1900-1911, supplied water from wells.
1902 Province of Manitoba grants the City a second Special Charter of Incorporation after repealing the first in 1886.

1902 Brookside Cemetery included in City limits.


1905 Assiniboine Park included in City limits.

1906 Part Municipality of Kildonan (Elmwood), taken into the City and wards increased to seven in number, Elmwood being designated Ward Seven.

1906 Lots 3 and 4, Parish of Kildonan, lying east of McGregor Street, taken into the City.

1907 Lot 3, Parish of Kildonan, lying west of McGregor Street, taken into the City.

1907 Board of Control system inaugurated, and was later abolished in 1918.

1908 Redwood Bridge built.

1908 High Pressure Pumping Station and piping system constructed.

1909 Assiniboine Park and the Zoo officially opened to the public.
1911 Town of Tuxedo incorporated.

1911 Provincial Government purchased 543 acres of land for an agricultural college, which was to become University of Manitoba.

1911 Municipal Hydro Electric Works at Pointe du Bois completed and in operation.

1912 Selkirk Centennial.


1912 Elm Park Bridge built.

1912 Town of Transcona incorporated.

1912 Provincial boundaries extended to shores of Hudson Bay.

1913 Lots 1 and 2, St. Charles, added to City and made part of Ward One.

1913 R.M. of Charleswood incorporated.

1913 City limits extended west to Doncaster Street.

1914 R.M. of Kildonan split into the R.M. of West Kildonan and the R.M. of East Kildonan.
1914 Portion of St. Vital annexed to City of St. Boniface.


1916 January 28 - Manitoba women became the first in Canada to win the rights to vote (suffrage) and to hold provincial office.

1918 City charter revised and consolidated.

1918 Kildonan Park and Golf Course included in City limits.

1919 April 5 - Greater Winnipeg Aqueduct completed. The Shoal Lake Aqueduct runs 135 km from Indian Bay on Shoal Lake to Winnipeg. The project was recognized as one of the major engineering accomplishments on the North American continent at the time and Shoal Lake was acknowledged to be one of the best sources of drinking water in the world.

1919 May 15 to June 26 - The Winnipeg General Strike. The Strike was a major impetus towards recognition of unions and collective bargaining in Canada.

1920 March 27 - Legislation passed to reduce the number of Wards of the City from seven to three, and increase the number of aldermen from fourteen to eighteen.

1920 July 15 - Official opening of the new Legislative Buildings in Manitoba took place in commemoration of Manitoba’s entry into Confederation 50 years ago.
1920 December 3 - First Civic Election held under the Proportional Representation system.

1921 R.M. of St. James incorporated.

1921 Rural portion of West Kildonan separated from R.M. of Old Kildonan.

1921 Village of Brooklands incorporated.

1924 June 18 - Celebration of 50th Anniversary of Incorporation of City of Winnipeg.

1925 Farming community of East Kildonan separated and incorporated as the R.M. of North Kildonan.

1926 November 15 - Memorial Boulevard and Osborne Street North extension opened for streetcar traffic.

1928 November 11 - Official unveiling of the Winnipeg War Memorial by His Honour Theodore A. Burrows, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, in commemoration of those who enlisted from the Province of Manitoba and killed during World War One, 1914-1918.

1930 June 15 - Celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of Manitoba’s formation as a Province and inclusion in Dominion of Canada.
1931 September 1 - Municipal Hydro Electric Generating Station at Slave Falls officially opened.

1933 November 8 - 60th Anniversary of Incorporation of City of Winnipeg.

1935 August 27 - Work commenced on Greater Winnipeg Sewage Disposal Project.

1937 October 9 - 60th Anniversary of the arrival in Winnipeg of C.P.R. Engine No. 1 “Countess of Dufferin”.

1937 - North Winnipeg Sewage Treatment Plant completed.

1938 Winnipeg Charter amended to provide for 2-year term for Mayor.

1939 May 24 - Official visit of His Majesty King George VI and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.

1940 November 22 - Question of extension of franchise to all British subjects over 21 years resident in Winnipeg carried by Referendum.

1942 November 27 - First Civic Election with Adult Suffrage in effect.

1949 June 5 to June 11 - Celebration of 75th Anniversary of Incorporation of City of Winnipeg.
1950 April - June - Red River Valley Flood with damage running into millions of dollars. River level was the highest in 89 years.

Other major floodings of the Red River:

- 1826 - 36.5 feet above City Datum
- 1852 - 34.7 feet above City Datum
- 1861 - 32.5 feet above City Datum
- 1882 - 26.0 feet above City Datum
- 1892 - 23.5 feet above City Datum
- 1904 - 24.6 feet above City Datum
- 1916 - 24.0 feet above City Datum
- 1948 - 23.4 feet above City Datum
- 1950 - 30.3 feet above City Datum
- 1966 - 26.3 feet above City Datum
- 1967 - 19.9 feet above City Datum
- 1974 - 19.5 feet above City Datum
- 1979 - 19.2 feet above City Datum
- 1987 - 19.1 feet above City Datum
- 1996 - 19.6 feet above City Datum
- 1997 - 24.5 feet above City Datum

(Note: 727.57 feet above sea level = 0 City (or James) Datum)


1954 City limits extended west to centre line of Edgeland Blvd.

1955 September 19 - Last streetcar line - Portage Avenue and Main Street - discontinued and streetcars replaced with diesel buses.

1956 Winnipeg Charter revised and consolidated.
1956  December 28 - Fluoridation of water supply completed.

1956  City of St. James incorporated.

1957  July 1 - City of East Kildonan incorporated.


1959  July 24 to July 25 - Visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second and His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh.

1960  March 26 - The Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg incorporated.

1960  Town of Brooklands incorporated.


1962  City of Winnipeg limits extended westerly to west limits of No. 6 and No. 7 Provincial Trunk Highways to include area of approximately 3,500 acres effective January 1st, 1963.

1964  October 5 - Official opening of new “Civic Centre”.

1966 March 4 - Winter Blizzard - Duration: 20 hours
Temperature (Max/Min) -7.8°C / -13.3°C  18°F / 8°F
Amount of Snowfall 38.1 cm  14 in
Wind Speed 80 km  50mph


1967 100th Anniversary Celebration of Canadian Confederation.

1967 City of St. James-Assiniboia incorporated.

1967 Pan Am Games held in Winnipeg.

1968 October 11 - Opening of Red River Floodway.

1970 Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Province of Manitoba.

1971 October 6 - Election of the first Council of the new Unified City of Winnipeg. Proportional representation elections replaced by plurality elections every three years, for both Mayor and Councillors.

1972 January 4 - Inaugural meeting of first Council of new unified City of Winnipeg.

1972 June 21 - August Civic Holiday declared by the Mayor (Minute No. 999)

1972 Deacon Reservoir completed.
1973  November 8 - 100th Anniversary of Incorporation of City of Winnipeg.

1974  Community Committees reduced from thirteen to twelve.

1974  April 25 - Severe flooding. Most damage occurred in the Red River Valley; City of Winnipeg was protected by the Red River Floodway.

1974  May 10 - Official visit of Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret and Lord Snowdon.

1974  September 16 - South Winnipeg Sewage Treatment Plant went into operation.

1975  January 11 - Winter Blizzard - Length 23 hours
Temperature (Max/Min)  -14.4°c / -24.4°c  6°f / -12°f
Amount of Snowfall  12.2 cm  4.8 in
Wind Speed  66 km  41 mph

1975  January 14 - Official opening of the new Convention Centre.

1976  April 30 - Official opening of the new Royal Canadian Mint.

1977  May 4 - Official opening of Winnipeg Centennial Library.

1977  October 26 - Communities reduced from twelve to six and Wards reduced from fifty to twentynine.
1978 November 15 - Official opening of “The Fort Garry Bridge”.

1979 Official opening of City of Winnipeg Pedestrian Concourse at Portage Avenue and Main Street.

1979 May 10 - Severe flooding occurred, with a magnitude comparable to the 1950 flood. Again due to the protection of the Floodway, damage was greatly reduced.

1981 Winnipeg Core Area Initiative - A five year $96 million tripartite governmental initiative was launched to revitalize the economic, social and physical core area of Winnipeg.

1982 Official opening of Kilcona Park and Harbour View Golf Course.

1982 100th Anniversary of Winnipeg Transit.

1982 Official opening of replacement bridge, Portage Avenue at Sturgeon Creek.


1984 October 29 - Official opening of “The Slaw Rebchuk Bridge”.
1986 Renewal of Winnipeg Core Area Initiative - Agreement renewed for an additional five years, and a one year extension, for $100 million tripartite governmental initiative launched to revitalize the economic, social & physical core aspects of Winnipeg.

1986 General reassessment of all properties in the City of Winnipeg.

1986 November 7 & 8 - Winter Blizzard - Length 11 hours
Temperature (Max / Min) 6°C / -12°C 21°F / 10°F
Amount of Snowfall 35.2 cm 13.9 in
Wind Speed 70 km 44 mph

1987 Opening of North Portage Development in downtown Winnipeg, including shopping mall, pedestrian bridges over Portage Avenue, and apartments. A joint development by the Federal, Provincial and City governments, and private enterprise.

1988 Completion of 1.2 miles of continuous weather protected pedestrian walkway linking The Bay Department Store to Winnipeg Square, Lombard Concourse and the historic Grain Exchange Building.


1989 For the first time, new legislation required the Mayor to appoint a Deputy Mayor, Acting Deputy Mayor and Chairpersons of all Standing Committees, and required the Mayor to Chair the Executive Policy Committee.
1989 Councillor Jae Eadie elected as City Council's first Speaker.

1989 October 4 - Opening of Forks Market.

1989 October 18 - Opening of Keewatin Underpass.

1990 General reassessment of all properties in the City of Winnipeg (1985 market value).

1990 June 15 - Closing of Amy Street Central Heating Steam Plant.

1990 July 6 to 14 - Western Canada Summer Games held in Winnipeg.

1990 October 19 - Official Opening of Kildonan Bridge over the Red River.

1990 November 8 - Official Opening of Pembina Highway overpass at Bishop Grandin Boulevard, and extension of Bishop Grandin Boulevard to Waverley Street.

1991 March - Winnipeg hosts Canada Safeway World Curling Championships.

1991 November 1 - Official naming of the Chief Peguis Trail Roadway which connects the Kildonan Bridge to Main Street and to Henderson Highway.
1991 November 20 to 24 - Winnipeg hosts Grey Cup Festival.

1992 April 21 - First meeting of the Board of Adjustment established by Council on January 22, 1992.

1992 May 6 - Winnipeg became the first Municipality in Canada to implement Hansard recording of Council meetings.

1992 May 9 - Headingley incorporated as separate municipality.

1992 October 7 - Amendments to *The City of Winnipeg Act* provide for the definition and recognition of five Community Committee areas comprising a total of 15 wards, as recommended by the Winnipeg Wards Boundaries Commission.

1992 October 28 - Susan A. Thompson became the first woman to be elected as Mayor of Winnipeg.

1993 July/August - Winnipeg experienced close to double the normal rainfall amounts. Three major storms struck the City in a 21-day period, between July 24 and August 14. Total damage due to flooding was estimated to be around $175 - $200 million.

1993 September - Winnipeg became the first Canadian Municipality to implement a Council Page Program.
1994 April 27 - Council approved “A New Direction for Civic Administration”, approving the restructuring of the organization, based on 17 Departments.

1995 June - Week of record-breaking summer temperature: 37.8°C (100°F) Daily records from 1888 and 1931 broken.

1995 October 24 - Official opening of the “Charleswood Bridge”.


1996 January - Winnipeg experienced some of the coldest January temperatures on record:
Average High - 18.1°C Normal High - 3.2°C
Average Low - 27.4°C Normal Low - 22.6°C
Warmest day of the Month: Jan. 12  2.8°C
Coldest day of the Month: Jan. 19  39.4°C

1996 February 9 to 13 - Winnipeg hosted the 7th International Winter Cities Conference.


1997 April 5 to 6 - Winnipeg’s worst recorded blizzard this century. Total accumulated snowfall was 48 cm (from Friday to Tuesday morning) the last record was in 1966 when 38.1 cm fell. Duration of storm: 24 hours Average wind speed: 60hm/h, gusting as high as 85 km/h.
1997 April - May - Severe flooding in the Red River Basin, which became known as the “Flood of the Century”. The City of Grand Forks, North Dakota was devastated and many rural communities sustained severe damage, but the Red River Floodway and the Portage Diversion protected the City of Winnipeg.

1997 September 20 - During a ceremony to reaffirm and permit the Fort Garry Horse Regiment to exercise their traditional right of the “Freedom of the City”, the City Zoo’s 18 month old black bear Winnie was named as the regiment’s mascot. The first Winnie the Bear, later to become famous as Winnie the Pooh, was the regiment’s original mascot during World War I.

1997 October 29 - City of Winnipeg Act amended, replacing the Board of Commissioners with a Chief Administrative Officer model. Also provided for a four-year term of office for Mayor and Councillors.

1998 October 21 - The Assiniboine Park Pavilion re-opened after a $4.5 million renovation and building addition. The Pavilion, originally built in 1927 is designated a heritage building. The Pavilion now houses an upscale restaurant and three art galleries, which comprise the works of Manitoba artists Ivan Eyre, Walter J. Phillips and Clarence Tillenius.
1999 January 27 - The 125th Anniversary of the first City Council Meeting, held on January 19, 1874.

1999 June - Opening of the Lyric Bandshell at Assiniboine Park with funding provided by the Asper Foundation and is located behind the Assiniboine Park Pavilion. The facility is used for summer outdoor performances and has the following amenities: rigging, sound, lighting and dressing rooms. It can accommodate large audiences and is used for annual events such as the Royal Winnipeg Ballet’s Ballet in the Park, Pooh Friendship Day and symphony, opera and jazz festivals.


1999 July 24 to August 8 - Winnipeg hosted the 13th Pam American Games.


1999 August - The Manitoba Theatre for Young People moved into its new building at The Forks. The CanWest Global Performing Arts Centre is a 28,000 square foot facility. It has four studios, a rehearsal room, wardrobe, prop and scene building shops, administration and the jewel, a re-configurable theatre.
2000 April - The first Carol Shields Winnipeg Book Award was presented at Brave New Words, the Manitoba Writing and Publishing Awards gala. The $5,000 award is presented annually to honour books that evoke the special character of and contribute to the appreciation and understanding of the City of Winnipeg. The award was established by the Winnipeg Arts Council and is funded by the City of Winnipeg.

2000 November 17 - Winnipeg residents bid 124,250 British pounds ($177,000 US) at a Sotheby's auction and won the only known oil painting of Winnie the Pooh by his original illustrator, E.H. Shepard. The large painting of Pooh holding a honey pot is located in the Pavilion Gallery Museum in Assiniboine Park.

2002 January - Utilizing an electronic information system developed by the City Clerk’s Department, Council meetings go paperless.

2002 February 27 - Council approved the sale of Winnipeg Hydro to Manitoba Hydro.

2002 July 25 to August 4 - Winnipeg hosted the North American Indigenous Games.
2002 September - Phase 1 of the Princess Street Campus of Red River College officially opened. The campus located at 160 Princess Street consists of three buildings: the William Avenue block; the Princess Street block opened on September 2, 2003, and the Adelaide Street block which will open for classes in September 2004. The Jubilee Atrium connects these three buildings.

2002 October 8 to 9 - Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth the II and the Duke of Edinburgh, visited Winnipeg during her Golden Jubilee (50th) Anniversary celebrations, and officially unveiled the restored provincial icon, the Golden Boy.

2002 December 11 - Council passed The Official Languages of Municipal Services By-law No. 8154/2002 for the provision of municipal services in both official languages.
2003 January 1 - The new City of Winnipeg Charter came into effect replacing the City of Winnipeg Act.

2003 April 5 to 13 - Winnipeg hosts the Ford World Curling Championships.

2003 July 1 - Winnipeg City Council implements the Smoking Regulation Bylaw prohibiting smoking in public places.

2003 Fall - The Provencher Twin Bridges are completed and the pedestrian walkway named “Esplanade Riel”. The dramatic cable-stayed pedestrian bridge is Winnipeg’s newest landmark.

2003 November 1 - The Centennial Library closes for a $17 million renovation. The facility will reopen as the Millennium Library in early 2005.

2004 Fall - The MTS Centre is scheduled to open.
Municipal Government
Council has embarked on many exciting new initiatives . . . investing in public safety, transportation, the environment, and the arts.

Municipal Government

History of City Hall

Construction of Winnipeg’s first City Hall, located on Main Street between William and Market Avenues, began August of 1875. However, the building suffered chronic structural problems and was eventually demolished in 1883.

A new City Hall was completed in 1886. The statuesque “Gingerbread” building, complete with all manner of Victorian grandeur, symbolized Winnipeg’s coming of age at the end of the nineteenth century. The building was demolished in 1962.

Winnipeg’s current City Hall was officially opened on October 5, 1964 at a cost of $8.2 million. City Hall, also known as the Civic Centre, is comprised of two buildings: the Council Building and the Administration Building. They are connected by an underground corridor and are separated by a courtyard, which underwent a $2.4 million structural and re-beautification renovation in 2003, which included additional trees, outdoor seating, a fossil shaped fountain and a sidewalk café.

The Council Building is two storeys in height and contains the Council Chamber and public gallery for 200 people, two committee rooms, the Mayor’s Office and Councillor and staff offices. The Administration Building is seven storeys tall and contains administrative offices and large conference rooms.
Creation of Unicity

On July 27, 1971, Bill 36, known as *The City of Winnipeg Act*, received Royal Assent. This Act incorporated the City of Winnipeg, The Metropolitan Corporation of Greater Winnipeg and the following municipalities, towns and cities into a unified City of Winnipeg, commonly referred to as “Unicity”.

- R.M. of Charleswood
- R.M. of Fort Garry
- R.M. of North Kildonan
- R.M. of Old Kildonan
- City of St. James-Assiniboia
- City of East Kildonan
- City of Transcona
- Town of Tuxedo
- City of West Kildonan
- City of St. Vital
- City of St. Boniface

The Election of the first Council for the Unified City of Winnipeg was held on October 6, 1971 and the new City came into legal existence on January 1, 1972. The new unified City Council consisted of 50 Councillors elected on the basis of one from each of the 50 wards and a Mayor elected from the City-at-large.
The Inaugural Meeting of the new Council took place on January 4, 1972.

Thirteen Community Committees were established under the Act; however, in 1974, on the recommendation of the Ward Boundaries Commission, the provincial government enacted legislation reducing the communities from thirteen to twelve but still maintaining fifty wards. In 1977, further legislation reduced the communities to six and the wards to twenty-nine. Each was a Community Committee of Council and comprises the Councillors who represented the wards within each particular Community.

In 1989, in accordance with The City of Winnipeg Act, a review of the boundaries of The City of Winnipeg was conducted and resulted in a number of changes to the Community area boundaries and the number of wards for four of the Communities. A subsequent review in 1991 resulted in further legislation passed in 1992, which reduced the communities to five and the wards to fifteen.

In 1998, further amendments were made to The City of Winnipeg Act. The powers of the mayor were increased and changes were made to the political decision-making structure.

In 2003 The City of Winnipeg Act was repealed and replaced with The City of Winnipeg Charter.
Mayors of Winnipeg

The following is a list of Winnipeg’s Mayors, from the date of its incorporation in 1873:

1. 1874  Francis Evans Cornish, Q.C.
2. 1875 - 1876  William Nassau Kennedy
3. 1877 - 1878  Thomas Scott
4. 1879 - 1880  Alexander Logan
5. 1881  Elias George Conklin
8. 1884  Alexander Logan
6. 1883  Alexander McMicken
9. 1887 - 1888  Lyman Melvin Jones
10. 1889  Thomas Ryan
11. 1890 - 1891  Alfred Pearson
12. 1892  Alexander Macdonald
13. 1893 - 1894  Thomas William Taylor
14. 1895  Thomas Gilroy
15. 1896  Richard Willis Jameson
16. 1897  William F. McCreary
17. 1898 - 1899  Alfred Joseph Andrews
18. 1900  Horace Wilson
19. 1901 - 1903  John Arbuthnot
20. 1904 - 1906  Thomas Sharpe
21. 1907 - 1908  James Henry Ashdown
22. 1909 - 1911  William Sanford Evans
23. 1912  Richard Deans Waugh
24. 1913 - 1914  Thomas Russ Deacon
1915 - 1916  Richard Deans Waugh
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Year 1</th>
<th>Year 2</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>David J. Dyson</td>
<td>Unseated on recount, January 5, 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>Frederick Harvey Davidson</td>
<td>Declared elected on recount, January 8, 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919 - 1920</td>
<td></td>
<td>Charles Frederick Gray</td>
<td>Died June 9, 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>Edward Parnell</td>
<td>Elected June 20, 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>Edward Parnell</td>
<td>Died May 10, 1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(e)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Frank Oliver Fowler</td>
<td>Elected June 21, 1979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923 - 1924</td>
<td></td>
<td>Seymour James Farmer</td>
<td>Resigned May 11, 2004</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
City Council and Committees

Council

Council is the governing body of the City and the custodian of its powers, both legislative and administrative. The City may exercise only those powers granted to it by legislation.

Policy making at the local level is limited and controlled by provincial government statute. The former City of Winnipeg Act was replaced by the new City of Winnipeg Charter, which came into force on January 1, 2003. The City of Winnipeg Charter provides the majority of powers and authority to the City of Winnipeg. However, other statutes extend additional authority to City Council in its decision making process.

The composition of City Council is legislated under Part 3 of The City of Winnipeg Charter and consists of 15 Councillors and the Mayor. Each Councillor represents an individual ward while the Mayor is elected by a vote of the city-at-large.

Councillors have a dual role, as they are members of Council (decisions affecting the whole city) and members of the Community Committees (local community issues).

City Council exercises its powers either by by-law or resolution passed at a regular or special meeting when a quorum is present.

Pursuant to the Charter, Council has the authority to establish committees of Council and Council may, by by-law delegate a power, duty or function to a committee of Council.
The authority to make final decisions on the following matters remains with Council and cannot be delegated to any political or administrative level below Council:

- authority to enact a by-law;
- authority to approve an operating or capital budget;
- authority to appoint, suspend or dismiss a statutory officer; or
- authority to enter into a collective agreement in respect of employees;

In addition to the Charter providing governance and direction to the city and its elected officials, Council passed The City Organization By-law No. 7100/97, on October 29, 1997. This By-law provides for the governance and administrative structure of the City. The By-law also delegates certain powers and responsibilities from City Council to Executive Policy Committee, the Standing Committees and the Chief Administrative Officer.

For detailed information on The City Organization By-law, please refer to the City Clerk's web page at www.winnipeg.ca/clerks.

The City of Winnipeg Charter can also be found under the City’s web page www.winnipeg.ca under News and Highlights.
Role and Mandate of the Mayor

The Mayor is the head of Council and the chief officer of the City. The responsibilities of the Mayor are listed under Section 57 to 60 of *The City of Winnipeg Charter*.

The Mayor chairs the Executive Policy Committee, and is an ex officio member of each Committee of Council.

The Mayor appoints:

- a Deputy Mayor;
- an Acting Deputy Mayor;
- the Chairpersons for the Standing Committees of Council, if standing committees are established by Council; and
- members of the Executive Policy Committee

The Deputy Mayor or Acting Deputy Mayor acts in the capacity of the Mayor in cases of his/her absence or unavailability.

Role and Mandate of Executive Policy Committee

The Executive Policy Committee is comprised of:

- the Mayor;
- the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, and
- any other members of Council appointed by the Mayor.

The general duties of the Executive Policy Committee include:

- formulating and presenting recommendations to Council respecting policies, plans, budgets, by-laws and other matters that affect the city as a whole.
- ensuring the implementation of policies adopted by Council.
The Executive Policy Committee has jurisdiction in the following areas:

- Audit Matters
- Business Liaison
- Capital Region
- Corporate Communication
- Economic Development
- Financial Management
- Formulation of Policy
- Human Resource Policies
- Information Technology
- Inter-Governmental Affairs
- Labour Contract Negotiations
- Legal Services and matters under Litigation
- Plan Winnipeg and Alignment of Department Strategic Plans
- Policies related to Materials Management
- Property Assessment
Standing Committees

Section 63(1) of The City of Winnipeg Charter gives Council the discretion to establish standing committees of council and determine their respective duties and powers.

Under the Organization By-law, Council has established the following four Standing Committees:

- The Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues
- The Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works
- The Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services
- The Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development

The Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues is composed of three members as follows:

- The Chairperson, appointed by the Mayor
- The Deputy Mayor
- One member elected by Council

The Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues coordinates and provides advice on the City’s fiscal policy development and fiscal strategies. The Committee also provides advice to Executive Policy Committee on:

- short and long range fiscal strategies;
- budget development and program review;
- assessment policies and strategies;
- investment policies and strategies;
fiscal and variance reporting;
- capital project recommendations and strategies;
- corporate fees and charges policies;
- economic forecasts and trends;
- other matters referred to it by Executive Policy Committee.

The remaining Standing Policy Committees on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, Protection and Community Services and Property and Development are composed of a Chairperson appointed by the Mayor and three other members elected by Council.

**The Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services** provides policy advice to Council on matters within the following areas of jurisdiction:

- Animal Control
- By-law enforcement
- Cultural Services
- Disaster Planning
- Fire and Paramedic Services
- Harbour Master
- Libraries
- Museums
- Police Services
- Public Health
- Recreation and Parks Programming and Services
- Zoo
The Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development provides policy advice to Council on matters within the following areas of jurisdiction:

- Asset Management
- Building Inspections
- Civic Buildings
- Development Control
- Heritage Matters
- Housing Policy
- Land Acquisition
- Land Development
- Licensing
- Parks Planning
- Planning and Land Use
- Riverbank Management

The Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works provides policy advice to Council on matters within the following areas of jurisdiction:

- Engineering Services
- Facility Maintenance
- Fleet Management
- Open Space Maintenance
- Public Works Maintenance
- Solid Waste
- Traffic Control
- Transit
- Transportation Planning
- Water/Waste Services
Role of The Speaker / Presiding Officer

The responsibilities of the Speaker/Presiding Officer are legislated under Section 67 of *The City of Winnipeg Charter*.

The Speaker is appointed by Council and has the following duties:

- chairing meetings;
- maintaining order and decorum; and
- deciding questions of order, subject to appeal to Council.

The Deputy Speaker is also appointed by Council and assumes the duties of the Speaker in his/her absence.

Community Committees

In addition to Standing Committees there are five Community Committees as follows:

- Assiniboia Community Committee
- City Centre Community Committee
- East Kildonan-Transcona Community Committee
- Lord Selkirk-North Kildonan Community Committee
- Riel Community Committee

Each of the 15 Councillors represents a ward within the City of Winnipeg, with three wards comprising a Community Committee. Community Committees meet monthly to discuss to local matters as well as act as a hearing body on zoning and subdivision applications.

Secretariat Committee

At the annual Orgaizational Meeting, Council establishes a Secretariat Committee, chaired by the Speaker and comprised of four other members of Council, each a representative of the
remaining four Community Committee areas not represented by the Speaker.

The Secretariat Committee is empowered as a governing body of Council and has the following responsibilities:

► To provide a forum for councillors to sort out matters and resolve issues for interns, secretaries, volunteers, etc.
► To be responsible for the operation of the Councillors’ office, including developing and administering a policy for Councillors’ assistance/assistants and expense allowances; and acting in an advisory capacity in the preparation of Council’s operating budget.
► To resolve non-political issues between Councillors.
► To resolve difficulties between Councillors and administration.
► To consider and resolve all other issues as referred to it by Council, Committees or member(s) of Council.
► To act as liaison to the Executive Policy Committee in all matters pertaining to the operation of the City Clerk’s Department.

**Alternate Service Delivery Committee**

The Mayor annually appoints four members of Council to the Alternate Service Delivery Committee whose responsibilities are as follows:

► Recommends through the Executive Policy Committee to Council the ASD Review Agenda;
► Evaluates feasibility studies to establish Special Service Units (SSU) and submit through Executive Policy Committee to Council those SSU proposals that the Committee recommends;
Reviews business plans and submit recommendations through Executive Policy Committee to Council for approval;

Receives and submits through Executive Policy Committee to Council the annual report of any SSU established by Council;

Ensures completion of 3-year effectiveness review;

The Idea Bank Reserve, including:

- Recommends funding from the Idea Bank Reserve for innovative ideas and associated costs to Executive Policy Committee, or where the amount of the loan is in excess of $100,000 to Council, for approval; and

- Approves the payback terms of any loan from the Idea Bank Reserve, including prepayment options, choices of loan periods and annual interest rate, with the principle repayments to be set so as to replenish the original level of the Idea Bank Reserve.

Any other function or responsibility deemed necessary by Executive Policy Committee and Council.

The Riverbank Management Committee

The Riverbank Management Committee reports to Council through the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Property and Development. The Riverbank Management Committee manages river related issues and provides the political focus necessary for giving direction and ongoing guidance to the City’s river related endeavours.

The Riverbank Management Committee is composed of a Chairperson and three members who are appointed by Council upon recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Planning, Property and Development.
The Riverbank Management Committee’s responsibilities are as follows:

- Reviews and recommends changes to Plan Winnipeg river policies, as required;
- Reviews and recommends changes to river related legislation, as required;
- Reviews and recommends adjustments to the City’s riverbank acquisition program and related funding;
- Promotes river related capital projects and programs in both the 5 year capital program and operating budgets;
- Develops innovative programs for riverbank stabilization of both public and private lands;
- Prepares reports as required for the benefit of the Standing Policy Committees and Council so that river related issues may be considered in an informed and structured manner.
- Hears appeals from orders or decisions made by the designated employee in respect of the issuance, cancellation or refusal of waterway permits.

Ad Hoc Committees

Ad Hoc Committees are created as special purpose bodies to investigate and report on particular matters. They are established by resolution of Standing Committees, and they report their recommendations to that Standing Committee. Once the committee has fulfilled its purpose, its mandate ceases and it is dissolved. Ad Hoc Committees have no legal identity as part of the organizational structure, nor do they possess any statutory powers.
EPC Secretariat

In accordance with By-law No. 7100/97, the Executive Policy Committee Secretariat shall provide fiscal, policy and strategic analysis, research, communication and support in such areas as the Mayor and Executive Policy Committee determine are required to assist Executive Policy Committee and the Office of the Mayor. Other duties shall include issue management and the scheduling and co-ordination of the agendas of the Executive Policy Committee and the Standing Committees. This is done in close co-operation with the Chief Administrative Officer Secretariat.

Council Meetings

Regular Council meetings are held in accordance with a schedule of meetings adopted by Council. Meetings commence at 9:30 a.m. and adjourn at 6:00 p.m.

All Council Meetings are held in the Council Chamber and are open to the public.

Special Meetings are called as required; for example, during budget deliberations. Special Meetings of Council may be called by the Mayor, or by a majority of members of Council.

The Notice of a Special Meeting must state the nature of the business to be conducted at the meeting. No other business can be discussed except that listed in the notice. As with regular meetings, any business considered at a Special Meeting must be done in public.
Inaugural Meeting

The Inaugural Meeting of Council is held on the first Tuesday in November following the general election of Council. At the Inaugural Meeting, the Mayor appoints a Deputy Mayor, an Acting Deputy Mayor, the Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, and other members of Executive Policy Committee. Also at this meeting, Council elects the Presiding Officer (Speaker) and Deputy Presiding Officer (Deputy Speaker).

Organizational Meeting

The Organizational Meeting of Council is held on the first Wednesday in each year (except in an election year, when it is held on the second Wednesday in November). At this meeting, Council elects members of Standing Committees, members to Committees and Boards and Commissions.

Council Agendas

The City Clerk is responsible for the preparation and distribution of Council agendas. The sequence of the agenda to be followed at each regular meeting is as follows:

- Introduction and Welcome of Guests and Announcements
- Reading of the Minutes
- Presenting Petitions
- Communications
- Delegations
- Consideration of the Report of the Executive Policy Committee
- Consideration of By-laws
- Executive Policy Committee Question Period
Consideration of the Reports of the Standing Committees (on a rotating basis at each subsequent meeting)

Consideration of By-laws and Question Period following each Report

Reports not related to the jurisdiction of any Committee

Adjournment

**Decision Making Information System (DMIS)**

In January 2002, the City Clerk’s Department initiated a paperless electronic decision making system known as the “Decision Making Information System”. This allows members of Council and the public to access the Agendas, Minutes and Disposition of Items for Council, Standing Committees, Community Committees and various Ad Hoc Committees electronically on the Internet.

In addition, electronic copies of Hansard can be accessed from Council proceedings. For more information, please go to: [www.winnipeg.ca/CLKDMIS/](http://www.winnipeg.ca/CLKDMIS/)

**Schedule of Meetings**

Council establishes, prior to January 1st of each year, a yearly Schedule of Meetings for Council and its Standing Committees and the prorogued period. Meetings of Council, Executive Policy and Standing Committees are prorogued during the month of August, except in an election year when the prorogued period is in October.
In addition to the yearly schedule, the City Clerk’s Department issues a weekly Schedule of Meetings. This schedule identifies the date, time and location of any meetings of Council, Executive Policy Committee, Standing Committees, Community Committees, Appeals Committee, Audit Committee, and the Riverbank Management Committee.

Ad hoc committees, sub-committees and task forces are listed at the discretion of the respective chairperson and/or upon request of any member of Council.

A copy of the most recent version of the yearly schedule of meetings and the weekly schedule is available on the City Clerks web site at www.winnipeg.ca/clerks.

**Procedure By-Law**

The meetings of Council and its Committees are regulated by the rules contained in the Procedure By-law No. 5400/90.

Procedures have evolved over the years and are intended to facilitate quick and efficient handling of Council business. The provisions of the Procedure By-law are observed both in Council and in all its Committees. A copy of the Procedure By-Law is available on the City Clerk’s web page at www.winnipeg.ca/clerks under the section Consolidated By-laws.
Delegations

Anyone wishing to appear before City Council as a delegation may do so if they have notified the City Clerk before 4:30 p.m. on the day preceding a regular meeting of Council. Delegations wishing to appear at a special meeting of Council, must register not less than two hours before the time of the meeting. The subject matter they wish to speak on must be on the Council agenda. Delegations are limited to two in favour of the subject matter and two against; in each case, the first of whom may speak for no more than ten minutes and the second no more than five minutes.

Hansard

All debates of Council are recorded in a Municipal Hansard. Copies of the transcripts are available on the City Clerks web page, located at www.winnipeg.ca/CLKDMIS/.

Members of the public can also access the Hansard at the Central Office of the City Clerk’s Department, and all public libraries in the City.

Council Page Program

On July 21, 1993, Council established a Council “Page” Program, at no cost to the City, to provide high school students, interested in civic affairs, an opportunity to acquire knowledge of the civic decision-making process.
The City of Winnipeg Page Program, developed by the Speaker of Council, in consultation with the City Clerk, accepts students from participating high schools, who volunteer to serve at City Council meetings. The students benefit from first-hand experience of Council proceedings by assisting Councillors with their informational requirements, thereby allowing Council members to remain in the Chamber to participate in debate.

The Page Program, the first of any Canadian municipality, commenced at the Council meeting held on September 22, 1993, with the assistance of students from the Mennonite Brethren Collegiate Institute, Gordon Bell High School, Miles Macdonell Collegiate and St. John’s High School.
Election Information

_The City of Winnipeg Charter_ requires that a general election of members of Council be held on the fourth Wednesday of October in 2006 and in each fourth year thereafter. The last general election was held on Wednesday, October 23, 2002, for the offices of Mayor, Councillors, and Trustees of various Winnipeg school divisions.

In addition to organizing the election for Mayor and Councillors, the City Clerk’s Office also runs the election on behalf of the following City of Winnipeg school divisions:

- Louis Riel School Division
- Pembina Trails School Division
- River East Transcona School Division
- St. James-Assiniboia School Division
- Seven Oaks School Division
- Winnipeg School Division

On occasion, by-elections are called to fill vacancies for the Office of Mayor, Councillor or School Trustee and provisions for by-elections are outlined in _The City of Winnipeg Charter_ and _The Local Authorities Election Act_. In fact six by-elections were held between the 1998 and 2002 Civic Elections.

The City Clerk acts as the Returning Officer and the Deputy City Clerk acts as the Enumerator. With the support of the City Clerk’s staff, the City of Winnipeg is considered to be a leader in election processes. A general election requires extensive efforts and the City Clerk’s Department implements continuous election planning for all by-elections and general elections.

Since 1995, there have been a number of improvements which helped facilitate election procedures. The first of which was the introduction of automated voting. In addition to improving the accuracy and speed of reporting as well as accountability,
automated voting revolutionized all of the City Clerk’s election processes and systems, and proved to be a resounding improvement over previous elections.

In 1998, the City Clerk’s Department entered into a partnership with Elections Canada for use of the National Registry of Electors, which is a permanent List of Electors and is maintained through updates from many different sources. The City of Winnipeg was the first major municipality in Canada to use the National Registry as the basis for the List of Electors.

The City Clerk’s Department also provides the citizens of Winnipeg a system where you can electronically access elector information, information on where you vote and information on Candidates. The City provides on-line mapping information using a connection to the Geographic Information system (GIS), which displays maps outlining voting locations and other election information.

Additional information from the 2002 General Election can be found on the City Clerk’s web page www.winnipeg.ca/clerks

Qualification of Candidates

Section 23(1) of The City of Winnipeg Charter sets out the eligibility requirements of a candidate. In order to be eligible for nomination, a person must be:

- A Canadian citizen;
- At least 18 years of age on the day of the election;
- A resident of the Province for six months;
- An elector; and
- Not disqualified under this or any other Act.

The City of Winnipeg is also governed by The Local Authorities Election Act, which provides more legislation on the operation and requirements for municipal elections.
Qualifications of Electors

Qualifications of Electors are subject to section 5(1) of *The Local Authorities Election Act*, which states:

Subject to this Act, the right to have his/her name placed upon the List of Electors of, and to vote at elections in, local authorities belongs to each of the following persons; this is to say, a person who:

a) is a Canadian citizen of the full age of 18 years, or who will be 18 years of age at the date of the election, and is not disqualified under this Act, or otherwise by law prohibited from voting; and

b) is an actual resident in the authority and will have been resident therein for a period of six months at the date of the election.

Qualification of non-resident owners for municipal elections

5(1.1) In an election in a municipality, a person who is a non-resident of the municipality has the right to be named in the list of electors and to vote, if he or she

(a) has the qualifications of an elector stated in clause (1)(a); and

(b) subject to subsection (1.3), has been for at least six months at the date of the election the registered owner of land that is assessed in the latest revised realty assessment roll of the municipality.
“Registered owner” defined

5(1.2) For the purpose of clause (1.1)(b), the registered owner of land is

(a) a tenant or occupier of it, if his or her name is entered on the latest revised realty assessment roll as the owner of a right, interest, or estate in it;

(b) if no person qualifies under clause (a), the person who purchased it under an agreement for sale that is subject to the (Canada); or

(c) if no person qualifies under clause (a) or (b), the owner.
City of Winnipeg
Community Committee and Ward Boundaries

Ville de Winnipeg
Délimitation des districts et des quartiers électoraux
Appointment of Citizen Members to Boards and Commissions

Council has delegated the responsibility for the management and administration of certain public services to autonomous bodies.

These Boards and Commissions are appointed in whole or in part by Council and have such authority as is delegated to them by the relevant by-laws of Council or by Act of the Legislature. Most of these Boards and Commissions include members of the public, as well as members of Council.

Every September, the City invites citizens to apply for vacant positions on various Boards, Commissions and Committees. Advertisements in local newspapers describe the number of members to be appointed and the names of the committees with vacancies that need to be filled. If you wish to apply or obtain more information, please contact the City Clerk’s Information Services at 986-2171.

The following is a list of Boards and Commissions; however more information is available on the City Clerk’s web page at www.winnipeg.ca/clerks/docs/boards/boards.stm

Access Advisory Committee
Action Committee Against Garrison
Alternate Service Delivery (ASD) Committee
Association of Manitoba Municipalities Inc
Board of Adjustment
Board of Appeal (Local Improvement Assessment Appeals)
Board of Revision
Boulevard Provencher Advisory Committee
CentreVenture Development Corporation
Citizen Equity Committee
City Council Benefits Board
Civic Employee Benefits Program
Civic Environmental Committee
Concordia Hospital Board of Directors
Convention Centre Corporation
Destination Winnipeg
The Forks North Portage Partnership
Heritage Winnipeg Corporation
Historic Winnipeg Advisory Committee
Historical Buildings Committee
Joint Committee of Council Members and
C.U.P.E. Representatives
Library Advisory Committees
(1 each for the 5 Community Committees)
Management Committee for the Lindenwoods
Joint Venture Agreement
Records Committee
Red River Basin Commission
Riverbank Management Committee
St. Boniface Museum Board
St. James-Assiniboia Museum Board
Secretariat Committee
Seven Oaks House Museum Board
Take Pride Winnipeg
Taxicab Board of Manitoba
Transcona Historical Museum Board
Victoria General Hospital Board of Directors
Winnipeg Airports Authority Board
Winnipeg Art Gallery Board of Governors
Winnipeg Arts Council
Winnipeg Building Commission
Winnipeg Committee for Safety
Winnipeg Enterprises Corporation
Winnipeg Housing Rehabilitation Corporation
Winnipeg Housing Steering Committee
Winnipeg Parking Authority
Winnipeg Public Library Board
Yellowhead Highway Association
Zoological Society of Manitoba
Business Improvement Zones
Academy Road Business Improvement Zone Board
Corydon Avenue Business Improvement Zone Board
Downtown Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone Board
Exchange District Business Improvement Zone Board
Grosvenor Square Business Improvement Zone Board
Mosaic Market Business Improvement Zone Board
Norwood Grove Business Improvement Zone Board
Old St. Vital Business Improvement Zone Board
Osborne South Business Improvement Zone Board
Osborne Village Business Improvement Zone Board
St. James Village Business Improvement Zone Board
Selkirk Avenue Business Improvement Zone Board
Transcona Business Improvement Zone Board
West Broadway-South Sherbrook Business Improvement Zone Board
West End Winnipeg Business Improvement Zone Board
ZAC du Quartier Français - French Quarter BIZ Business Improvement Zone Board
Municipal Administration
To be recognized as leaders in building public trust and supporting our shared vision of a vibrant and healthy city.

Affordable, Responsive Public Service

The Chief Administrative Officer and Administrative Governance

The Chief Administrative Officer is the administrative head of the organization and reports to the Executive Policy Committee. As the primary interface between Council and the Administration, the CAO takes Council direction and, through various planning processes involving Council and senior managers, develops the organization's strategies for moving forward. The Chief Administrative Officer’s (CAO) Secretariat has also been established to provide direct support to the CAO in the execution of her duties.

Chief Administrative Officer’s (CAO) Secretariat

Under the direction of the CAO, the CAO Secretariat plays a leadership role in implementing strategic priorities of Council, Executive Policy Committee, the CAO and the rest of the City of Winnipeg’s Senior Management Team.

The CAO’s mission is to optimize the performance of the organization as a whole by providing leadership in the areas of:

- interdepartmental coordination and issues management
- strategic management
- internal and external communications
- executive support
The CAO’s office consists of three divisions:

- Administrative Support Division
- Public Affairs Division
- Strategic Management Division

**Administrative Support Division**

The Administrative Support Division provides executive support to the CAO and the Senior Management Team, reviews and processes reports, coordinates policy and inter-departmental issues and coordinates the approval and communication of Administrative Directives. The Division also provides internal administrative services to the Secretariat.

More specifically, the Division:

- maintains close working relationships with the Mayor’s Office, Executive Policy Committee and the Executive Policy Committee Secretariat to facilitate the communication of priorities and issues
- reviews, analyzes and briefs the CAO on administrative reports and ensures the timely flow of high quality reports to Council and its Committees
- coordinates the development and approval of Administrative Directives and ensures ongoing integrity in the Directives system
provides agenda management and scheduling support to the CAO, CAO Executive Advisory Committee and the Senior Management Team

manages the resources of the Secretariat including human resources, physical assets and financial resources

Public Affairs Division

The Public Affairs Division leads the City’s internal and external communications program through:

- strategic communications planning and direction setting
- policy/directives development and implementation
- coordination of communication activities across the organization
- issues management
- media relations
- management of major communications projects

Public Affairs also oversees the special events function and plans/executes events impacting multiple departments, as well as:

- provides strategic and tactical leadership to all aspects of internal and external communications at the City
- leads strategic communications planning processes and facilitates departmental alignment
- develops, implements and evaluates policies, directives and procedures with respect to all aspects of communications (media relations, corporate image, advertising, etc.)
• manages current and emerging issues proactively and strategically; ensures issues are communicated in a timely way to both internal and external audiences (this includes research, briefings, communications strategy, etc.)

• provides communications leadership and expertise to high profile initiatives

• coordinates communication activities across the organization

• manages communications projects, including the production of major public documents e.g. Annual Report, Report to Citizens

Public Affairs maintains the City of Winnipeg Media Centre, where media outlets can locate information such as news releases and download the Media Services Guide.
Strategic Management Division

The Strategic Management Division provides leadership in strategic planning, socioeconomic research and analysis, the management of major corporate reviews, projects and/or improvement initiatives, and the analysis of overall organizational performance. The Division:

- leads and supports strategic planning processes
- analyzes the internal and external environment for risks and opportunities which includes, socioeconomic analysis, public opinion research and the management of public consultation processes
- leads or coordinates corporate reviews, projects or initiatives including:
  - organization-wide improvement initiatives
  - organizational reviews
  - interdepartmental policy or service initiatives
  - researching and analyzing policy issues
  - providing analysis relative to the organization’s performance

Film and Cultural Affairs Office

In addition to the other three divisions within the CAO Secretariat, the City’s Film and Cultural Affairs Office encourages a City of culture by nurturing and promoting diverse cultural initiatives that contribute to the quality of life, vibrancy and health of all citizens of Winnipeg.

The Film and Cultural Affairs Office ensures that City of Winnipeg policies regarding the Arts are coordinated, thoughtful and beneficial to all.
The office provides another way for the City to directly nurture and serve the creative spirit in all its forms by providing civic expertise, support and services.

The role of the Film and Cultural Affairs Office is many-faceted, touching on every aspect of culture. The Office facilitates municipal policy and planning to have a positive impact on cultural initiatives.

Requests from the creative community for assistance with funding, planning and city services are dealt with through the office.

Part of the mandate of the office is to make municipal government accessible and accountable to the various arts communities. City goods and services are made available to individuals, groups or organizations.

The office is part of the overall economic development strategy that aims to attract cultural businesses and events, spurring tourism and the creation of ancillary support services. It provides effective liaison between the private and public sectors and brings together diverse communities to reach understandings beneficial for all.
To deliver the best possible service to the citizens of Winnipeg.

Effective Local Government

Statutory Officers and their Service Portfolios

Section 96 of *The City of Winnipeg Charter* states that Council must appoint the following statutory officers:

- the Chief Administrative Officer
- the City Clerk
- the Chief Financial Officer
- the City Auditor

**Chief Administrative Officer**

The Chief Administrative Officer attends all meetings of Council, Executive Policy Committee, and provides advice concerning agenda matters. The CAO advises and informs Council on the operation and affairs of the City including any current and anticipated issues.

The Chief Administrative Officer ensures the policies and programs of the City are implemented; provides input on behalf of the administration to Council’s goals, objectives and strategies; approves and co-ordinates reports to the Standing Committees, Executive Policy Committee and Council; ensures that resolutions and by-laws of Council are carried out and enforced and has the powers of a “designated employee” under *The City of Winnipeg Charter*; coordinates the work of department heads so as to promote integration and efficiency and remove any duplication; ensures the ongoing preparation of departmental business plans in...
response to Council goals and objectives; is responsible for coordinating the preparation of the annual operating and capital budget of the City, and is responsible for the care, control and maintenance of all city-owned property and works.

City Clerk

The City Clerk is appointed by Council and, in addition to his statutory and administrative duties and responsibilities, he provides support for the efforts of Council, Executive Policy Committee and the Standing and Community Committees.

The City Clerk has statutory responsibility as designated by The City of Winnipeg Charter, The Local Authorities Election Act and The City Organization By-law No. 7100/97.

The City Clerk assists committee chairpersons and committee members with agenda preparation, policy formulation and research and, at the discretion of the chairperson, attends and provides clerical support at any related workshops or informal strategy sessions.

The City Clerk’s powers, duties and functions include:

- ensuring the recording of proceedings of City Council, Committees and public hearings
- communicating decisions of Council, Committees and public hearings to elected officials, senior administrators and the public
- maintaining and safekeeping all Council and Committee minutes, official copies of by-laws, the City’s List of Electors, and other corporate documents
- providing administrative, clerical and research services to City Council and Committees
providing public information services through the Information Services Branch, including central City Hall Information line and Information Kiosk, in both official languages where possible

- co-ordinating the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (FIPPA) Process

- conducting the general Civic Election and by-elections for the offices of Mayor, Councillor and School Trustees

- maintaining records of appointments, terms of office and qualifications of members of Boards and Commissions

- providing service records and maintaining and preserving the public historical records of the City at the City Archives

- operating the Board of Revision, the first level of statutory appeal of property and business taxation, and the Board of Adjustment, which conducts public hearings to consider variances and conditional uses

- responding to all Provincial inquiries

- executing City contracts and agreements

The City Clerk is committed to ongoing improvements; ensuring high quality products and service in a cost-effective manner; being highly responsive to clients’ needs; and providing services in a professional and impartial manner.
Chief Financial Officer

The Chief Financial Officer reports to the Chief Administrative Officer and has the responsibility to supervise the Property Assessment and Corporate Finance Departments, to monitor the financial status of the organization and to provide advice on fiscal policy and strategy to the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, the Chief Administrative Officer and through the Chief Administrative Officer, to Council and Executive Policy Committee.

City Auditor

The City Auditor reports directly to City Council through the Audit Committee. Audit reports become public documents when tabled at Council. This reporting structure defines the Audit Department as legislative auditors, similar in nature to the Office of the Auditor General for the Province of Manitoba and the Office of the Auditor General of Canada.

The City Auditor shall examine, in a manner necessary and in accordance with such terms of reference as Council may establish from time to time, the accounts of the City and Boards and Commissions and shall ascertain whether, in the opinion of the City Auditor:

- the accounts have been properly kept;
- all moneys have been fully accounted for, and the rules and procedures that are applied are sufficient to secure an effective check on the levy, collection and proper allocation of the revenue;
- money is expended for the purpose for which it is appropriated by Council, and the expenditure is properly authorized.
essential records are maintained, and the rules and procedures applied are sufficient to safeguard and control City property

money is expended with due regard for economy and sufficiency

satisfactory procedures have been established to measure and report to Council on the achievement of economy and efficiency
Organizational Chart
City of Winnipeg
Executive and Functional Organization

CITY ELECTORATE

CITY COUNCIL

Secretariat Committee

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE

EPC SECRETARIAT

CAO

CITY CLERK

CITY AUDITOR

STANDING COMMITTEE on Fiscal Issues

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE on Property & Development

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE on Infrastructure Renewals and Public Works

STANDING POLICY COMMITTEE on Protection & Community Services

CFO

Property Assessment
Corporate Finance

CAO Secretariat
Corporate Communications
Corporate Planning
Economic Initiatives
Research & Policy Analysis
Human Resource Services
Legal Services
Information Technology

Additional Appropriations

Engineering Services
Facility Maintenance
Fleet Management
Open Space Maintenance
Public Works Maintenance
Solid Waste
Traffic Control
Transit
Transportation Planning
Water/Waste Services

Animal Control
By-law Enforcement
Cultural Services
Disaster Planning
Fire and Paramedic Services
Harbour Master
Libraries
Museums
Police Services
Public Health
Recreation & Parks Programming Services

Asset Management
Building Inspection
Development Control
Heritage
Housing Policy
Land Development
Licensing
Parks Planning
Planning & Land Use
Riverbank Management
We are . . . developing neighbourhoods, responsible for
development, transportation and infrastructure,
concerned for the health and safety of our citizens and
providers of recreation and stewards of the environment.

Serving the Citizens of Winnipeg

Departmental Mandates

Community Services

The Community Services Department
offers a wide range of services and
programs dedicated to the citizens of
Winnipeg. These include four public
service divisions and one Special
Operating Agency in its structure, namely:

- Library Services
- Community Development and Recreation Services,
- Assiniboine Park Enterprise, including: the Assiniboine Park
  Zoo and Conservatory, and the City Naturalists
- Community Resource, Protection and Safety Services
  including: Community Resource Coordination,
  Environmental Health Services, License Services, Insect
  Control, Social Support and Development Services,
  Disaster Relief
- Animal Services
The Department utilizes a Community Resource Area Model to ensure integrated and community based services. The model is a community-based service delivery model that strengthens neighborhoods by building personal and community capacity through public participation, innovative partnerships and leadership development.

Within the framework of logical neighborhood characterization boundaries, seven geographic community areas have been identified. An eighth community resource area relates to the Aboriginal community. Within each, a Community Resource Area Coordinator facilitates the provision of integrated and responsive community services.
Corporate Finance

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) provides support and advice to the Chief Administrative Officer, the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues, the Alternate Service Delivery (ASD) Committee, Executive Policy Committee, and Council regarding the management of the Corporation's financial resources.

A major function of Corporate Finance is to ensure that the duties of the City Treasurer are discharged in accordance with Provincial Legislation, including The City of Winnipeg Charter, and Sections relative to finance, accounting, sinking fund, tax collection, and others.

Corporate Finance provides leadership in managing the financial operations of the City by developing and supporting corporate financial policy, systems, and processes. The department has operational and policy making responsibilities in the following areas:

- controllership
- financial reporting
- risk management
- materials management
- treasury
- administrative policy development
- payroll
- debt management
- revenue management
- financial systems management
- taxation
- financial planning and forecasting
- budget process management
- business planning
- alternative service delivery
Corporate Information Technology

The Corporate Information Technology (CIT) is an internal service provider for the City of Winnipeg. The mandate of CIT is to support public service delivery and to further the interests of the City through the provision of administrative leadership for the information stewardship program, program and policy development support, specialized expertise / consultation and services to all political and administrative units within the organization in the areas of information management, information technology, and other strategic internal services and initiatives as determined by the Chief Administrative Officer or Council from time to time.

Corporate Information Technology consists of the following Departments:

- Information Systems: Administrative Systems Branch; Development Centre Branch; Financial Systems Branch; Information Resource Management Branch, Land Based Systems Branch, and Public Access Systems Branch

- IT Operations and Infrastructure: Communications Systems Branch; Enterprise Computing Branch; Enterprise End User Computing Branch; Enterprise Security Branch; IT Architecture Branch; IT Enterprise Network Branch; IT Middleware Branch; IT Operations Branch.
Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department is an internal service provider for the City of Winnipeg. The mandate of the Corporate Services Department is to support public service delivery and to further the interests of the City by providing administrative leadership for the human resource program and policy development support, specialized expertise/consultation, and services to all administrative and political units within the City in the areas of human resource management, legal services and communication production services, and other strategic internal services and initiatives as determined by the Chief Administrative Officer or Council.

The Corporate Services Department consists of the following divisions, branches and units:

- Chief of Human Resources and Corporate Services
- Departmental Human Resources
- Finance and Administration
- Human Resource Development
- Corporate Education
- Human Resource Planning and Services
- Labour Relations and Compensation
- Legal Services
- Research and Internal Services
Emergency Preparedness Program

The function of emergency preparedness is maintained within the office of the Chief Financial Officer, both because of its critical importance to the City, and the cross-departmental nature of the work involved. The office is responsible for coordinating and supporting overall emergency preparedness activities including research, training and education, disaster exercises, public information and the response to an emergency event. The type of emergency dealt with by this service is one that is major or unusual in nature, and requires the coordination of more than one department and/or outside service. The Emergency Preparedness Coordinator maintains the readiness and operation of the Emergency Operations Center, a facility that serves as a focal point for the coordination of response activities during an emergency situation. The emergency program provides support to the Emergency Preparedness and Coordination Committee.

The aim of the City of Winnipeg Emergency Preparedness Program is to provide and support effective planning, disaster management, and education services to enable the citizens of Winnipeg to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a major disaster. In addition, the Office provides advice to City Council on all aspects of planning for and responding to major emergencies or disasters.
Fire Paramedic Service

The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) is responsible by law to provide fire suppression services, fire prevention programs, training and education related to prevention, detection or extinguishment of fires. It is responsible for handling hazardous materials incidents, for the mitigation of calamitous incidents, and for the evacuation of people when in charge at an incident.

The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) is also responsible for pre-hospital emergency paramedical care and transport of sick and injured in Winnipeg. The WFPS provides specialized rescue services such as water and trench rescues, professional extrication services for vehicle and industrial accidents, and high angle rescues.

The Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service (WFPS) is responsible for enforcing the Manitoba Fire Code within City limits, which includes making inspections, regulating and enforcing standards, issuing licenses, and issuing penalties.
The Planning, Property and Development Department focuses on the needs of development interests within the City of Winnipeg and provides management of the City's real property assets. This relatively new Civic Department is an amalgamation of the former Land and Development Services Department, the civic accommodations functions of the former Civic Buildings Department, and the planning functions previously delivered by the Community Services Department and the former Parks and Recreation Department.

The Department has statutory obligations along with individual policies of Council pertaining to a wide variety of property and development matters. The Department reports to the City's Chief Administrative Officer and the Standing Committee on Property and Development Services. The primary client group consists of homeowners and business people making real estate changes, contractors, engineers, architects, surveyors, appraisers, real estate agents, land developers, builders and their consultants and lawyers. The department also manages the City's land and building assets, including such functions as the buying, selling and leasing of real property.
Property Assessment

The Property Assessment Department is responsible for the valuation and classification of all real property, personal property and business occupancies within the City of Winnipeg for the purpose of distributing taxes fairly to the City's citizens. The powers and responsibilities of the City Assessor are detailed in The Municipal Assessment Act and The City of Winnipeg Charter.

The City Assessor is a legislative officer and as such must adhere to provincial legislation when performing the assessment function. From an administrative perspective the Property Assessment Department reports through the Chief Financial Officer to the Chief Administrative Officer and politically to the Standing Committee on Fiscal Issues.

Public Works

The Public Works Department is responsible for the delivery of municipal public works services related to the planning, development and maintenance of roadway systems, the maintenance of parks and open spaces, and the maintenance and security of civic buildings.

Legislative authority to provide and maintain roads and walks, parks and open spaces, and attendant facilities is derived from The City of Winnipeg Charter and numerous By-laws.
Council makes decisions relating to Public Works in the following areas: budgets, policies, service standards, major capital projects, major contract awards, property acquisitions. The Department reports administratively to the Chief Administrative Officer, and politically to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works.

**Water and Waste**

The Water and Waste Department reports administratively to the Chief Administrative Officer, and politically to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works. This large Department consists of three distinct utilities: water; wastewater; and solid waste disposal. The Department provides tax-supported services for land drainage, flood control and solid waste collection. The Department’s activities contribute to the high quality of life enjoyed by the citizens of Winnipeg by protecting public health, property and the environment; collecting and treating wastewater; managing land drainage and flood control; and providing collection, disposal and waste minimization programs and facilities for solid waste.

**Winnipeg Police Service**

The mandate of the Winnipeg Police Services is to ensure the safety of the lives and property of citizens, to preserve peace and good order, the prevention of crime, detection of offenders and enforcement of the laws.

Legislated authority for the creation of The Winnipeg Police Service is derived from *The Provincial Police Act* and *The City of Winnipeg Charter*. 
Members of the service also enforce the Criminal Code of Canada as well as other Federal, Provincial and Municipal laws.

Administratively, the Chief of Police reports to the Chief Administrative Officer and politically the Winnipeg Police Service reports to the Standing Policy Committee on Protection and Community Services.

**Winnipeg Transit**

The Winnipeg Transit Department is responsible for providing public transportation services including regular transit, Handi transit, chartered bus service and special events services to the citizens of Winnipeg. The City has exclusive authority to operate local fixed-fare passenger transportation services within the City of Winnipeg, and outside the City of Winnipeg to Birds Hill Provincial Park. City Council has the authority to set transit fares, as deemed appropriate.

The Department reports administratively to the Chief Administrative Officer, and politically to the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works.
To be a vibrant and healthy city which places its highest priority on quality of life for all its citizens.

At the Forefront of Municipal Government

Civic Initiatives

Plan Winnipeg

Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision is City Council’s long-range policy plan. It was adopted December 12, 2001. The Plan is intended to guide Winnipeg into the twenty-first century by addressing broad physical, social, economic, and environmental conditions in the city. In that sense, Plan Winnipeg is the most important document prepared by the City of Winnipeg because it provides the foundation for all civic activity. All other documents, budgets, public works, programs, or developments must be consistent with this Plan.

The Plan’s vision spans twenty years, a generation in time, in order to describe the kind of city we want for ourselves and our children. Yet, to maintain its currency and relevance, the Plan will be reviewed and updated in five-year increments.

Using Plan Winnipeg as a guide, Council can set priorities, make decisions, and manage the City with greater consistency, clarity, and predictability. Most importantly, the Plan explains how Council and the Winnipeg community can work together to achieve Winnipeg’s potential.

Click on these links to find out more about Plan Winnipeg:

Plan Winnipeg 2020 Vision Document (pdf, 3.90mg)
CentreVenture Development Corporation

The CentreVenture Development Corporation was created by City Council in 1999 to be the duly constituted authority to provide leadership in creating and sustaining business opportunities and economic growth in downtown Winnipeg. In 2002, the CentreVenture Asset Agreement was renewed and updated to include new properties and provide for improved access to the building inventory, specifically in Winnipeg’s downtown.

The Planning Property and Development Department partnered with CentreVenture on several significant initiatives including the updating of the City’s Downtown Zoning By-law, a Portage Avenue Vision and Context Strategy and a Weather Protected Pedestrian Walkway Study.

The City provides support to CentreVenture on Strategic Economic Development projects and grants as well as funding for the CentreVenture Downtown Heritage Incentive Grants.

Winnipeg’s New Deal

The City’s “New Deal” proposal is rooted in the need to insure Winnipeggers can enjoy a prosperous economy and a high quality of life into the future. It is also rooted in the need to address very fundamental issues relating to the City’s financial sustainability. The New Deal is about an “urban renaissance,” building healthy communities and a vibrant place to live - putting the plight of cities on the national stage. It’s about cities having the autonomy and authority to match their budgetary responsibilities.
The New Deal proposes to overhaul the tax system and reduce the City’s reliance on property tax by moving toward consumption taxes and user fees, which allows taxpayers to have a say in what they pay.

The City conducted seven Town Hall meetings and over 50 workshops with the citizens of Winnipeg in order to explore the possible implantation of some form of new deal.

**Aboriginal Strategy**

The “First Steps: Municipal Aboriginal Pathways” report aligns with Plan Winnipeg’s direction that the City “promote self-reliant Aboriginal Communities” and address urban Aboriginal issues in Winnipeg. This report presents a policy framework for generating a new era of sustained commitment by the City of Winnipeg to Aboriginal issues so that we may truly, as the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples observed, “live together in peace, harmony, and mutual support.”

**The Winnipeg Accessibility Award**

The Winnipeg Accessibility Award is intended to raise awareness about the importance of accessibility in the City of Winnipeg and its role in making life more equitable, safe, comfortable and affordable for everyone including people with disabilities. All people, regardless of diverse sizes, ages, abilities and backgrounds, must be afforded the opportunity to participate on an equal level. The Winnipeg Accessibility Award highlights some of the positive examples that exemplify this goal.
Neighbourhood and Downtown Revitalization

The civic government is promoting downtown development to stimulate revitalization and restore the excitement of downtown as both an important shopping and entertainment destination and a convenient place to live. In addition, older inner-city neighbourhoods are undergoing restoration in order to retain their unique character and to maintain a viable and marketable housing stock. In March 2002, the City worked with the Province to establish the Building Communities initiative, which provides $14 million in capital funding to six targeted neighbourhoods. The city also delivered a $4 million to the Winnipeg Development Agreement program, which funded over 40 projects in two older neighbourhoods. The civic administration continues to work closely with citizens in the West Broadway, Spence, and William Whyte neighbourhoods to develop new housing opportunities under the Winnipeg Housing and Homelessness Initiative for a total investment of almost $3 million.
Special Operating Agencies

Since 1999, the City of Winnipeg has been actively researching the potential of creating new Special Operating Agencies (SOA), a key tool to support the City’s efforts in achieving more affordable government. The City is committed to providing quality services at an affordable cost and on a sustainable basis. The City’s Administration continually reviews programs, services, and the way they are delivered to the Community. Special Operating Agencies politically report to the Alternate Service Delivery Committee. Since its inception, the City has established five Special Operating Agencies, namely: Animal Services (2000), Glacial Sand and Gravel (2001), Golf Services (2002) and Fleet Management Agency (2003). A fifth SOA candidate, Parking Services, has hired a Chief Operating Officer who will prepare, for Council approval, a business plan and operating charter for SOA status.

Human Resource Initiatives

The City is committed to a dynamic and diverse workforce of highly skilled employees delivering excellent service to the citizens of Winnipeg. To that end, the City has initiated the following programs: a comprehensive Human Resources Development Plan, a Respectful Workplace Directive, the City’s Employee Work Planning and Performance Feedback System, the $3 million City/CUPE Joint Education, Training and Staff Development Fund. We continue to expand the horizons of our staff training and development programs to help build the workforce of the future through education, training and staff development.
Other Initiatives

Heritage buildings are being reclaimed, Red River College’s downtown campus project is underway, and the $9 million tripartite Waterfront Drive initiative will provide 1.2 kilometres of roadway to open up prime real estate opportunities along the Red River. The civic administration has been actively involved in all of the activity downtown, providing support to CentreVenture, design review for Red River’s new campus, and new infrastructure for Waterfront Drive. The city is streamlining the review and approval process for businesses that want to set up shop downtown. The new $70 million Provencher Bridge has been completed. The City provided $10 million in cash and $3.5 million in site servicing costs, in support of the MTS Centre sports and entertainment complex.
The City of Winnipeg Charter

The new City of Winnipeg Charter came into effect on January 1, 2003. The Charter replaced The City of Winnipeg Act and features some significant enhancements and flexibility to the City’s powers. The amendments to the Act are the result of an extensive analysis of the impact of the Charter upon existing City by-laws, which was conducted by Legal Services in consultation with other civic departments.

On June 20, 2002, The City of Winnipeg Charter was introduced in the Manitoba Legislature. This legislation inaugurates a new relationship between the City and Province, recognizing the City as a responsible, accountable government, and providing civic government with new tools to do its job more effectively.

The implications of the new Charter are far-reaching. The new legislation is much more concise and easier to understand than the old City of Winnipeg Act. More importantly, it provides civic government with broader municipal powers, similar to those in Ontario and Alberta, and in the newly tabled, draft Community Charter legislation in British Columbia.

The new City of Winnipeg Charter will help civic government to serve the community better. It eliminates numerous requirements for provincial approvals, and will enable Council to streamline property, planning and development approvals. The Charter includes measures to advance civic efforts in neighbourhood revitalization and housing, downtown development, economic development, and better governance. It will help put Winnipeg at the forefront of Canadian municipal government.
Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

In 1997, the Province of Manitoba passed *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* commonly known as FIPPA. In 1998, the City of Winnipeg passed By-law No. 7272/98 dealing with this new piece of legislation. FIPPA provides the legal right of access to records held by the City of Winnipeg, subject to certain exemptions, and provides for the protection of personal information collected, used and disclosed by the City. Refer to the Act for specific exemptions regarding access and disclosure.

Under FIPPA, individuals may request access to government-held information about themselves or other matters of interest to them, subject to certain specified exemptions. Individuals have the right to request correction of their personal information if they believe it to be inaccurate or incomplete.

Individuals also have the right to register a complaint if they believe that their personal information has been improperly used.

For more information on FIPPA, please visit the City Clerk’s web page at [www.winnipeg.ca/clerks](http://www.winnipeg.ca/clerks)
Frequently Called Numbers

EMERGENCY - Dial 911

Municipal

City Hall Information..............................................................986-2171

City of Winnipeg Departments

Chief Administrative Officer Secretariat ..........986-2323
Community Services .........................................................986-3391
Corporate Finance .........................................................986-2161
Corporate Information Technology .................986-2614
Corporate Services .........................................................986-2614
Emergency Preparedness Office .....................986-4692
Fire Paramedic Service .........................................................986-6380
Planning, Property and Development ...............986-3500
Property Assessment .........................................................986-2353
Public Works .................................................................986-7623
Water and Waste .........................................................986-5858
Winnipeg Police Service ...............................................986-6222
Winnipeg Tranist ..............................................................986-5700

Animal Service .................................................................986-2155
Building Permits .................................................................986-5140
Cemeteries .................................................................986-4348
City Buses .................................................................986-5700
Claims and Insurance .........................................................986-3002
Fences (Zoning Branch) ...............................................986-5140
Graffiti Removal ..............................................................986-1234
Handi-Transit ...............................................................986-5722
Insect Control .................................................................986-3222
Inspections - building, electrical ......................986-5300
Leisure Guide ..............................................................986-8099
Library (Winnipeg Public) .............................................986-6450

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Licenses (business, dog, lottery, etc) .......................986-6420
Parking (tickets) ........................................................986-6282
Parks (Community Services re: Bookings) ..............986-2665
Parks (Public Works) - Central -
    2000 Portage Avenue ........................................986-3857
    South-West Area - 735 Assiniboine Park Drive .986-3826
    North Area - 545 Watt Street .........................986-3110
    South-East Area - 219 Provencher Blvd ............986-2663
Pot Holes (Public Works) ...........................................986-7623
Snow Clearing, Street Maintenance........................986-7623
Streets and Transportation Customer Services
street and bridge repair, snow clearing,
traffic signals ........................................................986-7623
Tax (realty taxes) ......................................................986-7623
Water and Waste Customer Services
    Garbage, sewers, water, recycling ..................986-5858
    Emergency service only ..................................986-2626
Weed Control .............................................................986-7623
Zoning (General) ......................................................986-5140

Miscellaneous
Chamber of Commerce ............................................944-8484
Marriage Licenses ....................................................945-3727
Destination Winnipeg .............................................943-1970

Provincial
Citizen's Inquiry Service ...........................................945-3744

Business Name Registration ....................................945-2500
Community Home Services ......................................948-4392
Crown Attorney's Office ..........................................945-2852
Elections Manitoba ...................................................945-3225
Emergency - Manitoba Disaster Assistance Board ..945-3050
Highways Department - Highway Conditions ..........945-3704
Income Supplement Programs
  CRISP (Child Related Income) and
    55 Plus Income Support Program ............1-800-563-8793
Land Titles Office ..................................................945-2042
Legal Aid .................................................................985-8500
Manitoba Hydro .......................................................474-3311
Manitoba Health Services Commission .............786-7101
Motor Vehicle Branch ...............................................945-6850
Remand Centre (police lock-up facilities) ............945-3540
Residential Tenancies Branch .................................945-2476
Social Services .......................................................948-4000
Taxation Programs
  Property Tax Credit ..............................................943-3401
  Sales Tax .............................................................945-6444
Vital Statistics (births, deaths) ..............................945-3701
Winnipeg Regional Health Authority .....................926-8000

Federal

Citizen's Inquiry Service ........................................1-800-622-6232

Canada Post Corporation
  General Information .............................................1-800-267-1177
  Postal Code Information ......................................1-900-565-2633
Child Tax Benefits ...............................................1-800-387-1193
Customs (308 - 391 York Avenue) .......................1-800-461-9999
Elections Canada ..................................................1-800-463-6868
Income Tax ............................................................1-800-959-8281
Passports (400 - 433 Main Street) ......................1-800-567-6868
Revenue Canada - GST Inquiries .......................1-800-959-8281
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