WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE WINNIPEG?

A Sustainable Winnipeg is a 25-year integrated community sustainability strategy for Winnipeg that supports the three interdependent pillars of sustainability: environmental, economic and social. It is built on solid sustainability principles developed by citizens at the Mayor’s Symposium on a Sustainable Winnipeg in April, 2009. Its key directions align with the City of Winnipeg’s vision for a sustainable community: “Living and caring because we plan on staying.”

OurWinnipeg and its four direction strategies (including A Sustainable Winnipeg) have been created with sustainability as their overarching framework— all Directions, Strategies and Actions have been constructed on this principle.

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR CHANGE

- Population Growth - How will we find room for almost 83,000 new households while ensuring that our city stays liveable, desirable and affordable?
- Equity and Opportunity - Our success as a city depends on the well-being and contribution of all Winnipeggers.
- Infrastructure - How can the City address a $7.4 billion infrastructure deficit over the next 10 years?
- Economic Prosperity - How will the City take leadership to attract and retain business, development and residents in an increasingly competitive environment between cities?
- Healthy Communities - How can we ensure that people in every community have what they need to lead healthy lives?
- Land Supply and Affordability - How can the City manage its land supply in a way that contributes to housing affordability?
- Climate Change - How can the City continue to work toward meeting its greenhouse gas emission targets and measure its progress?

AN INTERCONNECTED COMMUNITY

A view of community as three concentric circles: the economy exists within society, and both the economy and society exist within the environment.
IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

Three categories of short-term sustainability actions will be prioritized for immediate action:

1. Fulfilling commitments within the Sustainability Priority of A Call to Action for OurWinnipeg:
   - Sustainable Procurement Community Network and Corporate Sustainable Procurement Policy
   - Green standards for City buildings
   - Green Workplace initiative
   - Green Living Public Education and Awareness Campaign
   - Online sustainability tools for citizens
   - Greenhouse Gas Reduction Strategy
   - Green Fleet Vehicle Plan
   - Expanded sustainability scope for the Mayor’s Environmental Advisory Committee
   - Examine curb side composting
   - Residential Toilet Rebate Program

2. Developing a sustainability indicator system

3. Building a corporate culture of sustainability within the Public Service and working to embed sustainable thinking.

THE DIRECTIONS

A Sustainable Winnipeg provides directions and strategies into five priority areas:

The foundation: leading by example - The City of Winnipeg will lead in making Winnipeg more sustainable. The City understands the importance of vibrancy, resilience and city competitiveness in creating a sustainable city, and has developed specific policies to support these goals.

Track Progress - The City of Winnipeg will use and regularly report on a set of sustainability indicators, developed to meet best practices for sustainable development planning.

Integrate sustainability into internal decision-making - The City of Winnipeg will incorporate environmental, social and economic factors into decision making by strengthening existing or building new integrated planning mechanisms where required.

Create and invest in sustainability tools - OurWinnipeg and its supporting Direction Strategies have sustainability woven into their fabric. Each of the Direction Strategies includes tools that support sustainability and link planning with implementation.

Continue to respect and value our natural environment - Our actions contribute to the protection of the natural environment both regionally and globally, now and for future generations. To this end, the City will implement specific strategies to reduce the environmental impact of its actions.

SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

Measuring our progress towards the vision of OurWinnipeg requires choosing indicators and setting targets. With a balanced set of measures, the City can evaluate the effectiveness of its approaches over the long term and can fully enable partners to contribute to the shared vision for OurWinnipeg, by reducing barriers or aligning incentives to desired outcomes.