

## United Way of Winnipeg and Cambrian Credit Union Make Over Grounds at the North Point Douglas Women's Centre

As part of United Way of Winnipeg's (UWW) Day of Caring program, staff and volunteers from Cambrian Credit Union pitched in to refurbish and landscape the grounds at the North Point Douglas Women's Centre (NPDWC) August 29, 2005.

With his sleeves rolled up and shovel at the ready, Tom Bryk, 2005 United Way of Winnipeg Campaign Chair, and President and CEO of Cambrian, was proud to participate on behalf of both organizations.

"This is what a Day of Caring is all about," said Tom Bryk, United Way 2005 Campaign Chair. "It's an opportunity to tangibly help improve conditions, and give something back to the community."

Janet Johnstone, a Centre volunteer, agreed. "I know I speak for everyone at the Centre when I say how grateful we are for all the hard work, planning and generosity that helped make our Day of Caring a reality."

Volunteers from Environment Canada, Parks Canada and MacDonald Youth Services were also on hand to help improve the facility for the benefit of the community. Mike Houde, Maintenance Supervisor with MacDonald Youth Services coordinated the landscape work alongside fellow volunteer Doug Henry, Supervisor of Radar Maintenance, Environment Canada. They were assisted by Virginia Lockett and Evelyn Wakaruk, volunteers representing Parks Canada.

Landscape improvements were designed to be low maintenance and both environmentally and user-friendly. The clean-up included removal of old concrete sidewalk pieces and weeds to facilitate the installation of moveable, triangular-shaped flower beds enhanced by new plants and shrubs for a future sitting area and completion of a wheelchair access ramp.

In 2000, the NPDWC started life when the need for a neighbourhood women's centre was first identified by its female residents. Here, women can gather and access telephone, internet and laundry facilities, early childhood education and career training programs. It is a hub where they work together to maintain a safe and healthy environment for themselves and their families. The Centre was developed to teach women how to be advocates on their own behalf in order to deal with their day-to-day living conditions including substandard housing, unemployment and poverty.



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Cambrian Credit Union has a long history of giving back to the community through sponsorships, donations and volunteerism. A supporter of United Way's annual campaign, Cambrian's 2004 workplace campaign was among the top 50 in Winnipeg. Cambrian is an innovative provider of a full menu of financial services from mortgages to savings, insurance to investment advice. It has more than 46,000 individual and commercial members served through 11 branches in Winnipeg and Selkirk, Manitoba, and more than \$1 billion in assets.

United Way of Winnipeg, an independent, nonpolitical organization, works with Winnipeggers and builds upon the strength of volunteers and voluntary action by engaging the whole community for the benefit of the whole community. Its mission: to improve lives and build community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action.

2005 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary for United Way Winnipeg. It was incorporated in 1965 through a unique partnership between the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce and the Winnipeg Labour Council. This strong relationship continues to this day, as UWW works to engage corporations, government, labour, and community organizations to find solutions to community social needs all year long. Winnipeggers have invested more than \$270 million through UWW since 1965. United Way agencies play a key role in carrying out strategies to address challenges that Winnipeggers have identified as most important.

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