

United Way Invites Innovation Funding available for time-limited projects

United Way of Winnipeg (UWW) is extending an [*Invitation for Innovation*](#), an initiative that provides time-limited funding to non-profit and registered charity organizations planning innovative projects consistent with our city's shared vision of building better lives and stronger community.

United Way is a volunteer-driven, community organization that provides both core funding, and time-limited/one-time funding to kick-start innovative solutions to community challenges. Winnipeggers have invested over \$285 million through United Way of Winnipeg since its inception in 1965.

Projects considered for *Invitation for Innovation* funding should be located within and designed to benefit the community of Winnipeg. These may be new initiatives (within the last year) or an expansion of an existing pilot program and designed to make measurable improvements in one or more of the following ways:

- Create community development activities that address the root causes of social and economic issues
- Enhance opportunities which enable people at the community level to manage decisions, programs and policies that affect them as a group
- Strengthen partnerships between community organizations and promote collective action

Enhance employment or training opportunities for marginalized groups or individuals, or provide earned income to diversify the revenue base of an organization through a revenue-generating business which does not profit private share-holders.

To qualify, proposed *Invitation for Innovation* projects must have clearly-stated start and end dates. *Start dates should be no earlier than Fall 2006.* The degree of innovation of all proposed projects will be taken into particular consideration. Maximum funding per project is \$45,000 and the project duration should be between six and 24 months. For more specific information, applicants are encouraged to [click here](#) or call John Hutton or Carly Duboff, United Way Community Development Investment managers at 477-5360. **Deadline for submitting Letters of Intent: Tuesday, February 28, 2006.**

Approved *Invitation for Innovation* projects must align with one or more of the following UWW areas of focus:

- Supporting Aboriginal peoples, seniors, women and new Canadians in their efforts to escape poverty, live independently, and overcome life's challenges
- Building safe, vibrant and economically strong neighbourhoods
- Providing safe, healthy environments for children and youth and opening doors for their life-long success

Organizations interested in applying for time-limited project funding through United Way's *Invitation to Innovation* initiative, are invited to forward two copies of their [Letter of Intent](#) and attachments by Tuesday, February 28, 2006 to:

Mark Nesar
Chair, Community Investment
United Way of Winnipeg
3rd Floor - 5 Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3L 2T4

Contact: Kathi Neal, Director of Communications & Marketing, 477-5360 or 801-5877