



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

N E W S R E L E A S E

Wednesday, August 31, 2005
For Immediate Release

CUexpo2005 Features New York Mayor, Urban Change Experts

WINNIPEG—Dynamic Mayor William A. Johnson, Jr. of Rochester, N.Y. will be one of the keynote speakers at *CUexpo2005: Community-University Research Partnerships, Leaders in Urban Change*, a conference hosted by the Winnipeg Inner City Research Alliance at The University of Winnipeg's Institute of Urban Studies **September 15 to 18, 2005** at the Delta Winnipeg.

Conference delegates from Canada, the United States, the Netherlands, Germany, the Philippines, and Australia will take in four extraordinary keynote addresses, 93 breakout sessions, field trips, and more centred on innovative approaches to deal with today's most pressing urban issues.

Johnson—a nationally recognized African-American civic leader known for spearheading innovative community initiatives in education, housing, youth development, and employment training—is a strong advocate for collaborative partnerships and smart growth policies. He will give a free public presentation entitled *New Times, New Challenges, New Visions* on **Thursday, September 15, 2005** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Delta Hotel, 350 St. Mary Ave. This event is co-hosted by OmniTRAX/Broe QUEST and the Manitoba Professional Planners Institute.

Johnson will describe Rochester's acclaimed process of inner-city redevelopment based on citizen empowerment and partnerships. He will speak about research partnerships between university and community including "Project Believe" and "Neighbours Building Neighbourhoods" and how they fit within the city's broader Renaissance Plan and link to the university's support of the community. Johnson will share his ideas about first steps toward building effective city-university partnerships and factors necessary for the long-term success of these partnerships.

This international conference will examine issues such as poverty, homelessness, affordable housing, neighbourhood revitalization, support for children and youth, and community economic development. All sessions will have a strong urban focus and will touch on themes that include: *Influencing Policy Change; Building Community Capacity*; and, *Balancing Power and Participation*.

Other keynotes include:

- **Lloyd Axworthy**, President of The University of Winnipeg, will speak on *Dismantling the Ivory Tower: The Role of Universities in Building Creative, Vital Communities*. Dr. Axworthy will draw on examples from The University of Winnipeg experience including consultations with the Spence neighborhood community, development of the Wii Chii Waa Ka Nak Learning Centre, wireless corridor, and the provision of recreational facilities, green space, health clinic,

and wellness centre for the use of the community.

- **Cathy Crowe**, Street Nurse and co-founder of Toronto Disaster Relief Committee, will give insight into *Research With A Pulse*. Crowe will describe some of the surprises she encountered in her first research experience entitled *The Street Health Report* (1992) <http://tdrc.net/CroweResources.htm> This was a classic example of a university-community research partnership. Crowe will outline some of the unusual research methods that were invented in response to conditions homeless people faced such as: a piece of string, a roll of tape, a camping shower bag, a secret video camera, and a telephone.
- **David Roy Newhouse**, Principal of Peter Gzowski College and Associate Professor of Native Studies and Business Administration at Trent University and editor of the *CANDO Journal of Aboriginal Economic Development*, will give a keynote address on *Creating a Seat at the Table-Reflections on Invisibility, Diversity and Power*. According to Newhouse, an Onondaga from the Six Nations of the Grand River community, researchers have power and research has power. He will explore how the relationship between researcher and researched is influenced by our understanding of ourselves and our history.
- **James Zamprelli**, Policy & Research Division, CMHC, will speak on *Creating the Knowledge and Capacity to Understand and Deal with the Complexities and Diversity of Homelessness*. Is research on homelessness akin to “fiddling while Rome burns”? Do “activists” in combating homelessness really need the “eggheads” standing by? Why is research necessary? Does research lead to action affecting policy or practice? Where does research fit in this era of “evidence-based” policy?

REGULAR REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

Standard registration fees are \$350 (up to and including Sept. 1) and \$450 (after Sept. 1)
Student registration fees are \$250 (up to and including Sept. 1) and \$350 (after Sept. 1)

Full registration fees cover all conference workshops, panel discussions, keynote addresses, field trips, and meals (including Saturday night banquet and Sunday brunch.)
Single day registration also available.

For details on the CUexpo 2005 conference, please visit: <http://cuexpo.uwinnipeg.ca>

The Winnipeg Inner City Research Alliance is a partnership of community-based organizations and university academics engaged in participatory research on inner-city issues leading to improved quality of life. Located in the heart of downtown, The University of Winnipeg is a compact, diverse, multicultural academic community committed to access and excellence. Ranked by our graduates in Maclean's magazine University Graduate Survey (November 15, 2004) in the Top Ten of all Canadian universities when asked about their “Entire Educational Experience,” UWinnipeg is home to more than 8,700 full- and part-time students.

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For more information, please contact:

Ilana Simon, Communications Officer, The University of Winnipeg
T: 204.786.9930 i.simon@uwinnipeg.ca

Tom Carter, WIRA Research Liaison Director, IUS, The University of Winnipeg
T : 204.982.1148 t.carter@uwinnipeg.ca

Anita Friesen, WIRA Community Liaison Director, IUS, The University of Winnipeg
T : 204.982.1152 a.friesen@uwinnipeg.ca