



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

UWinnipeg Establishes Development Corporation To Aid in Campus/Downtown West Revitalization

University of Winnipeg President Lloyd Axworthy today announced the establishment of a Community Renewal Corporation to lead much needed university and community development efforts in and around the downtown campus.

“The University of Winnipeg Community Renewal Corporation will play a strategic role in the revitalization of downtown west by leading the design and development of innovative, sustainable, and technologically advanced multi-use educational, housing and community facilities in and around the UWinnipeg neighbourhood” said Dr. Axworthy.

Speaking to the Winnipeg Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Axworthy said the creation of an independent, not-for-profit development corporation will enable the University to build a new style campus that is integrated and intertwined with the urban landscape. With over 10,000 faculty, staff, and students, The University of Winnipeg is the largest institutional concentration of population in the downtown—infusing over \$17 million annually in consumer spending into the heart of the city.

The University of Winnipeg Community Renewal Corporation will be the University’s development arm to assess and respond to the feasibility and facility requirements related to a broad range of needs which have been identified through extensive internal and community consultations, including: the development of up to 500 units of student and mixed-use housing; the creation of a new major inner-city green space and recreation area on University land; the creation of a pedestrian friendly transit mall on Spence Street with commercial development that would bring new stores, financial services, and restaurants to the area; the construction of new University facilities to house an Aboriginal education hub; information-based educational activities using wireless technology; and an expanded day care, a well-being and fitness centre, and summer camps for inner-city youth.

University President Lloyd Axworthy will chair the Corporation and work with a Board of 14 Directors. University Board of Regents member Sherman Kreiner has agreed on a volunteer basis to serve as the Corporation’s Executive Director. The University is currently in the process of seeking funding and in-kind support from various levels of government to support the work of the Corporation.

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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