## Building COMMUNITIES through infrastructure

#### Investing in infrastructure is about investing in people and communities

Infrastructure investments help ensure that people have quality housing, safe drinking water, better schools, health centres and other infrastructure that helps to bring people together and build strong communities.

# MANITOBA REGION



Since 2016 and as of March 31, 2019, Sindigenous Services Canada has invested \$812.4 million of targeted funds toward infrastructure in Manitoba First Nations. In that same period a total of 513 targeted infrastructure projects were completed or ongoing throughout the region. Highlights include: 360 homes built and 316 renovated, 3 new schools constructed and 3 renovated, and 23 completed infrastructure projects related to health and the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve program. Between November 2015 and March 2019, 7 long-term drinking water advisories were also lifted.

Of the 63 First Nations in Manitoba, 17 do not have year-round road access. This means that more than half of all Manitoba First Nations people who live on reserve depend on air service or the winter road network. The region's unique logistical challenges mean development of First Nations infrastructure requires extensive planning and organization.

### **AT A GLANCE**

- There are 63 First Nations in Manitoba, with a total of 160,595 registered First Nation members. Of those. 94,315 members (58.7%) live on a reserve.
- There are five First Nations linguistic groups in Manitoba: Cree, Ojibway, Dakota, Ojibway-Cree and Dene.

#### **First Nations Targeted Infrastructure Investments Across the Region**



Water Treatment Plant Expansion and Associated Works

> **Departmental Investment** \$13.3 million



Black River First Nation

**Projects Renovations/Additions** Regional Housing Initiative—10 Units

**Departmental Investment** \$2.4 million

As one of the most remote First Nations in Manitoba, Pauingassi First Nation faced an added challenge when they undertook an expansion to the community's water treatment plant. With no airport or access road, heavy materials could only be moved by winter road during the coldest part of the year. As a result of the expansion and upgrades, the longterm drinking water advisory that affected the community for years has been lifted.



Community

With approximately 40% of the community's population under 15 years of age, it's a priority for Black River First Nation to ensure that families—especially those with children have secure homes. The community has completed the construction of 10 new houses and renovated 11 existing homes to address health and safety concerns for its residents.

"I think it will inspire more kids to actually start going to school. The new school will be beneficial for all students and students that have dropped out or are thinking of coming back to school."

Corbin Grieves, Student Bunibonibee Cree Nation, Manitoba Manitoba Schools Initiative





#### Community First Nations communities throughout Manitoba

Project

Southeast Resource Development Council — Southeast Collegiate New School and Lodge

> **Departmental Investment** \$10 million

The First Nations students attending high school at Southeast Collegiate in Winnipeg are pursuing an education focused on traditions, culture and academics. A new school building and residence lodge support youth coming to the city from their home communities to live, learn and share meals together safely and comfortably throughout the school year.







The band administration office at Swan Lake now has fast, reliable Internet access as a result of upgrades to the wiring and hub connection at the office. Access to high speed Internet means the community can communicate guickly and easily with people across the region, the country and the world.



Community Pinaymootang First Nation Project Renovation and Expansion of

Existing Community Health Facility **Departmental Investment** 

\$1.2 million

Renovating and expanding its health centre has allowed Pinaymootang First Nation to offer a wider range of health services for its own and nearby remote communities, who no longer have to make the long trip to Winnipeg to receive care. New services include doctors visiting twice a week, a satellite pharmacy, and increased mental health services that have been in higher demand since flooding displaced many local communities in 2011.

Fundamental Community Infrastructure

> Community Peguis First Nation

Project Construction of a New Bridge at McPherson and AB's Crossing

**Departmental Investment** \$4.4 million



Community St. Theresa Point First Nation

Proiects End-of-Life Vehicle and Scrap Metal Removal

End-of-Life Vehicle Removal Training

**Departmental Investment** \$1.3 million Pequis has ensured safer passage to and from its community with the construction of two new bridges. By replacing a bridge and detour frequently washed out by seasonal floods and strengthening a second bridge to allow it to handle full highway loading, the First Nation has improved the safety and well-being of residents and visitors to the community.

St. Theresa Point is disposing of old cars and scrap metal using an environmentally conscious process that also improves the community's economic prosperity. Scrap metal is collected and removed from old cars and then crushed, recycled or sold. Proceeds are then invested back into the community. The purchase of a crusher, and training of local operators for residential waste collection and management of the local landfill site, along with signs and brochures designed to bring residents onboard with the efforts, mean both the environment and the community will benefit.