

Services to Indigenous Populations: Northern Healthy Foods Initiative; Challenge Dialogue System & the Innovation Sprint

Public Sector Service Delivery Council (PSSDC)
Delta Hotels Winnipeg, Manitoba - September 26, 2019



Food Insecurity in Northern Manitoba

- Food insecurity in North America is classified as not having the means to access healthy foods that will sustain a healthy living.



- A history of colonialism has led to systematic changes resulting in the current levels of food insecurity in northern Manitoba.

“Putting Food on the Table”

What is the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative?

Since 2002, the province mandated a study on the issue of the high cost of food in northern Manitoba resulting in:

- The Northern Food Prices Report (2003);
- The establishment of the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative (NHFI) in 2004.



What is the Northern Healthy Foods Initiative?

Whole of Government Approach:

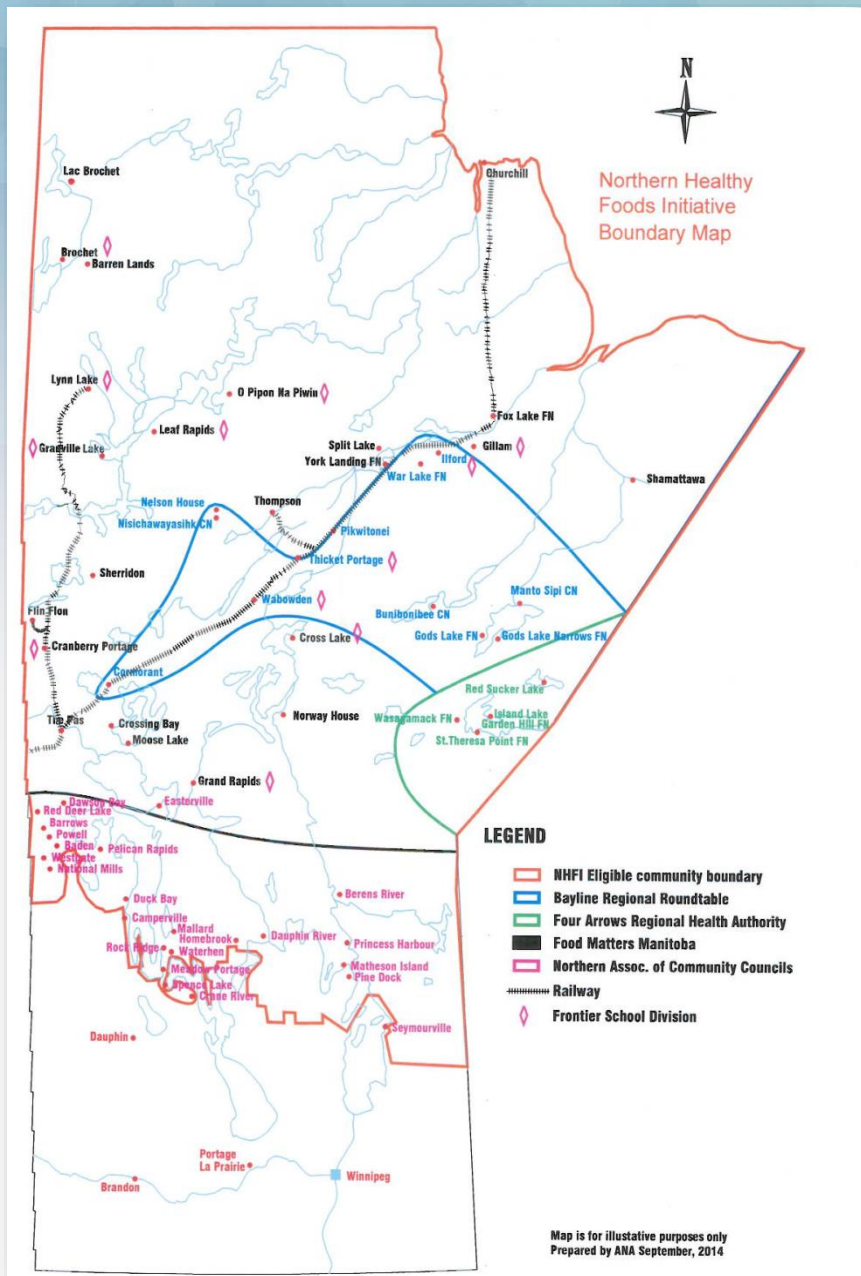
- Indigenous and Northern Relations
- Sustainable Development
- Health, Seniors and Active Living
- Education and Training
- Agriculture
- Growth, Enterprise and Trade



NHFI's Strategic Priorities

- NHFI will strengthen strategic partnerships and collaborative efforts to support local food production and access.
- NHFI will enhance support for local efforts, including strengthening community-led approaches that reflect cultural values.





Northern Healthy Foods Initiative Boundary Line

NHFI Budget

2004/05: \$179.0

2019/20: \$1,296.8



- \$634.8 Regular Programming for 101 eligible communities & Special Projects
- \$662.0 Social Enterprise Development (under review, reallocation to Program Stabilization and Innovation)

Successes/Opportunities

2017/2018 Results

Activity	Results
Gardens	1,363 gardens yielding approximately 170,000 lbs of fruit and vegetables
Greenhouses	62 supported
Poultry Production	4,042 lbs and over 900 eggs
Traditional Foods	Over 28,000 lbs moose, duck, goose and fish harvested
Capacity Building Events	97 events with 2,413 participants

Challenges

- Vast geographical area
- Local issues (capacity, contact turn-over & burnout, conflicting priorities)
- Inadequate funding to support the need
- Socio-economic issues affecting food security that are not within the influence of NHFI



Building Upon Success: The Future of NHFI

- Working towards resolution of key challenge areas in phased approach
- Focus on innovative solutions
- **Challenge Dialogue System (CDS)**
- CDS reflects working with and learning from colleagues in all sectors around the world on complex, multi-stakeholder challenges

The 8 Steps of Challenge Dialogue



Project Objective

- To solicit input on the necessary elements that need to be considered to structure an effective prize competition.
- To reach clarity on the singular question to be asked of innovators and the core parameters that should guide the competition.

Innovation Sprint



A technology search engine bringing innovative technologies forward to solve a societal need



Mobilize new talent – breakthroughs from outside traditional community



Credible 3rd party technology assessment and judging.



Objective testing of finalists – direct comparison, not theoretical



Multiple winners – One team wins the competition, but others may ultimately be more impactful



Inspiration: Demonstrates leadership and helps instill an ‘innovation mindset’



NEXT STEPS

- Final Internal Processing
- Complete Challenge Dialogue
- Innovation Sprint Initiation
- Deploy Solutions



THANK YOU!

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