

December 2024

Community Wellness Collaborative Newsletter

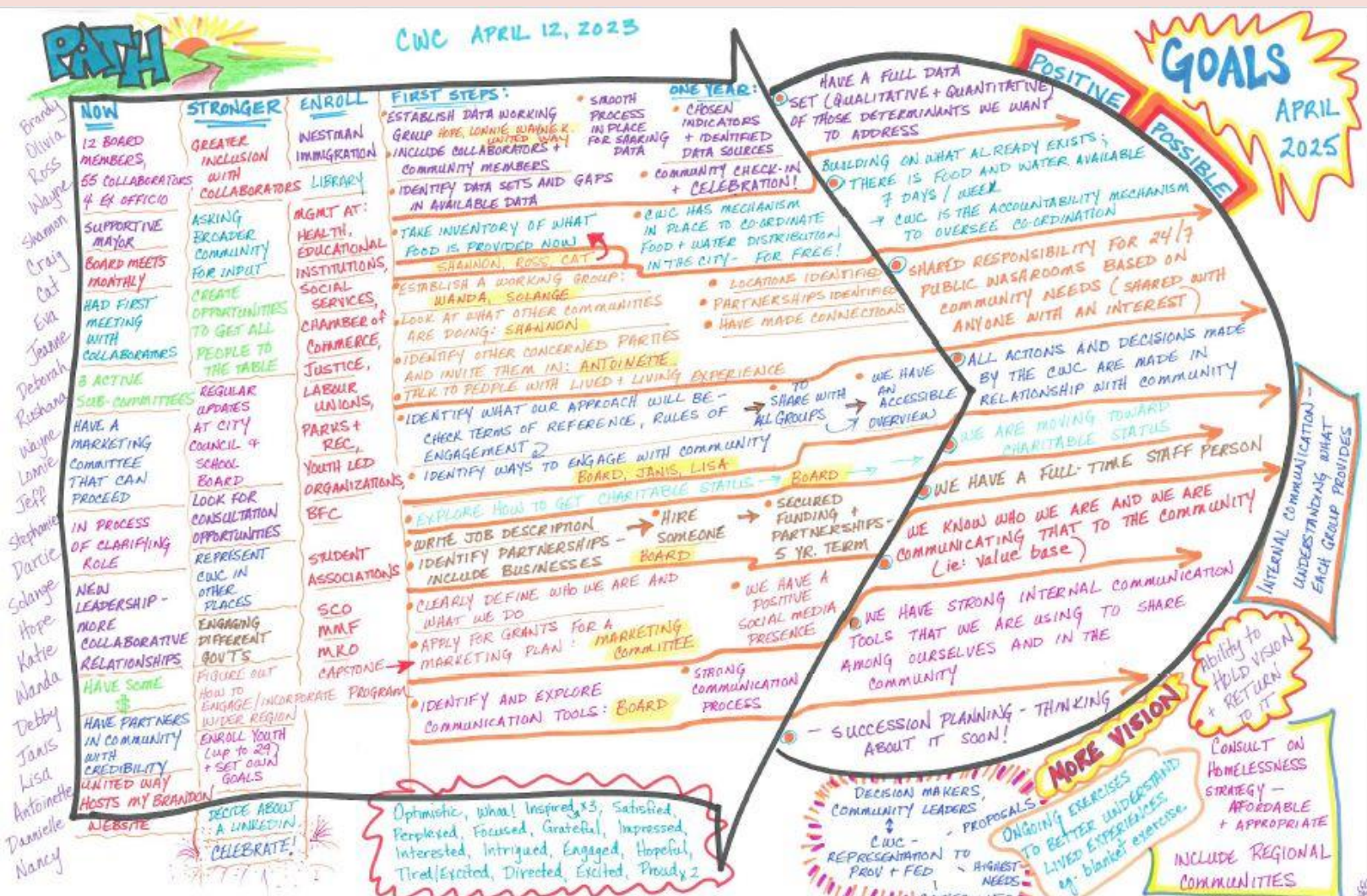


Please NOTICE OUR NEW LOGO!

We wanted to take a moment to update you on what we have been up to since doing our PATH in April 2023



Please see the PATH we had worked on as a collective in April 2023



Year One Goals

Washrooms

Establish a working group/Completed

Identify concerns of businesses and community/Completed

Talk to people with lived and living experience/Completed

Relationship with Community

Ensure we bring back to board accountability on including persons with lived and living experience/ Ongoing

Identify our approach in all matters and communicate with the board/Ongoing

Identify ways to engage community

Check the rules of engagement/Ongoing

Explore charitable status/ Not yet

Hire a staff

Write job description/ Complete

Hire someone / In process

Secure funding/Not yet

Marketing committee

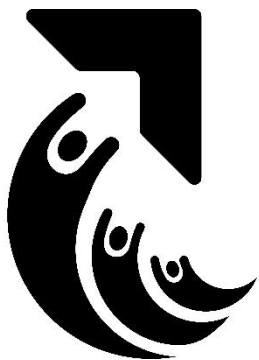
Establish a committee/Compete

Apply for grants for a marketing plan/Not yet

Identify and Explore Communication Tools/ We have Facebook and still needs work

Logo...

We worked with Assiniboine
College students to develop
our logo



**COMMUNITY WELLNESS
COLLABORATIVE**



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Sub committees

Goals (From PATH)

GOAL: A full data set (qualitative and quantitative) of those determinants we want to address. (C. Mychasiw, N. McPherson, A.R. Bourget)

GOAL: Building on what already exists, there is food and water available 7 days/week – Food and water desert elimination. (R. Robinson, D. Baker, S. Saltarelli)

GOAL: Shared responsibility for 24/7 public washrooms based on community needs. (S. Saltarelli, W. Brine, S. Machado)

GOAL: Working in Relationship with Community (Antoinette Gravel-Ouellette, J. Irvine)

GOAL: We are moving toward charitable status. (R. Newman, S. Lockerby, R. Robinson)

GOAL: We have a fulltime staff person (N. McPherson, D. Baker).

GOALS: We know who we are and we are communicating that to the community; We have strong internal communication tools that we are using to share amongst ourselves and the community (M. Grills, N. McPherson, R. Robinson)

GOAL: A full data set (qualitative and quantitative) of those determinants we want to address. (C. Mychasiw, N. McPherson, A.R. Bourget)

Data Repository – an initial meeting was held with community representatives including the Rural Development Institute, Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation Community Development, United Way, Prairie Mountain Health and a graduate student from Cape Breton University. The working group reviewed the existing database that was developed the United Way a few years ago.

This database was designed to reflect the Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations and aligns with www.mypeg.ca.

The working group has since examined current data sources, existing gaps in community-level data, opportunities to engage with local agencies and organizations, human resource requirements to maintain the database and potential funding opportunities to support the continued development and maintenance of the resource.



GOAL: Building on what already exists, there is food and water available 7 days/week – Food and water desert elimination. (R. Robinson, D. Baker, S. Saltarelli)

Since PATH was completed the sub-committee met regularly

The sub-committee held 2 different engagements with Collaborators. The first was open to all collaborators who have an interest in food security it was held on Dec 11/2023 and there were 23 groups or agencies represented and over 30 people attended.

The second engagement participants were drawn from people who at the conclusion of the first event expressed a desire to change the landscape and achieve the goal. The second event was held on Sept 16 and 11 attended although more were invited.

The subcommittee met with the public at Helping Hands on May 9th and 10th. The staff at the Women's Resource Centre also assisted with completing surveys with clients. 91 surveys were filled out by the public. The goal was to determine what participants in the various food security projects were aware of and how we could do better. Participants were compensated for their contributions to our learning. A summary of those findings and comments is attached or click here for high level results https://forms.office.com/Pages/AnalysisPage.aspx?AnalyzerToken=b7Z375sNXgmpntMipl7wXJOrigvn7F3u&id=AZl0f1ljvk6zGL1xvp7U_cQxHwa9oc5Al6QLzgXZJHNUOFBCRTFTTIEwQ1pXWFRYOVgxTTgwMzBYSC4u



**COMMUNITY WELLNESS
COLLABORATIVE**

GOAL: Building on what already exists, there is food and water available 7 days/week – Food and water desert elimination.

(R. Robinson, D. Baker, S. Saltarelli)

Outcomes.

With special funding, we were able to arrange for 100 bag lunches on both Saturdays and Sundays in February, March, and April of 2024. These were produced by Helping Hands and distributed by 7th Street Access and The Blue Door Room. Refrigerators were also provided to 7th St and Blue Door to keep the lunches properly. These were well received. The cost for the lunches was \$9,000 a month.

The City of Brandon trialed 2 hydration stations (water bottle refill) downtown once Mother Nature warmed things up enough. They were in use for about 2 months before being removed to be winterized. The one at 7th and Rosser (by Huddle) had 1.1m³ or 1000L of water dispensed making it the most used. The one on 11th and Princess (by YWCA) had 0.4m³ or 400L of water dispensed. Overall, for the short seasonal trial there was 1500L of water dispensed which saved 1875 plastic 750mL water bottles from being used. In addition there were some refillable water bottles donated to several agencies from the City of Brandon's Emergency Response Manager.

These stations will go back into the downtown in the spring of 2025 although an alternate location will be determined instead of 11th and Princess.

With the help of 7th St HAC, a monthly food calendar was developed. This provides a concise one-pager for people to learn where/when and how food is available in Brandon. It is updated quarterly. See attached.

Outcomes yet to be achieved.

We have yet to achieve water 12 months a year.

We have yet to achieve a sustainable solution for food 7 days a week.

GOAL: Shared responsibility for 24/7 public washrooms based on community needs. (S. Saltarelli, W. Brine, S. Machado)

Several meetings took place with the city of Brandon and in consultation with the CWC some recommendations were made.

City of Brandon is working on this.



**GOAL: Working in Relationship with Community
(Antoinette Gravel-Ouellette, J. Irvine, Debby Dandy, Lisa)**

Over that past few years our committee has met as needed and priorities have been:

Made thought boxes to have community input to what is needed in Brandon both an online survey as well as physical boxes were made by Ventures to collect this information.

We started to do regular Blanket Exercises and have had a great response from the community.

Some of the organizations who have participated?

ACC Community College

Brandon Police

Ombudsman

Manitoba Possible

Riverbank (Canada Day)

Child and Family Services

Many individuals and families

We continue to keep this in the forefront when meeting with the CWC so that all voices are heard.



GOAL: We are moving toward charitable status. (R. Newman, S. Lockerby, R. Robinson)

This area is one still in the works



**WORK IN
PROGRESS**

GOAL: We have a fulltime staff person (N. McPherson, D. Baker)

Staff Position – the CWC Board of Directors determined the need for a fulltime, term position to support the work of the organization. Several iterations of a contract position description have been reviewed but not yet finalized.

This position is expected to be in place in 2025.



Other work completed

We have completed bylaws and terms of reference with sub committees and hired a consultant to review and meet with the executive to ensure all is in the same vision as the CWC's



**GOAL: We know who we are and we are communicating that to the community;
We have strong internal communication tools that we are using to share
amongst ourselves and the community (M. Grills, N. McPherson, R. Robinson)**

We have a dedicated person who takes care of the Facebook page and we have had Assiniboine College students develop our logo



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From All of Us To All of You!

