



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXTREME HEAT: New Summer Resource Guide now available

Winnipeg, June 12th- With temperatures soaring and extreme heat continuing to impact the region, the Extreme Weather Committee has unveiled a comprehensive emergency response summer guide. The guide aims to mitigate the impact of extreme heat, alleviate the challenges presented by the heat and safeguard the well-being of residents, with particular focus on the most vulnerable individuals who are at increased risk during these challenging weather conditions.

“Extreme weather is our new normal” Emphasizes Jamil Mahmood “We need to ensure that as a city, sector and community organizations that we are coming together to provide opportunities to increase wellness checks, provide water and cooling stations and ensure we have a coordinated response to support those most at risk in extreme heat.”

Extreme heat poses significant risks to public health, especially for individuals experiencing homelessness and those with limited access to cooling facilities. Recognizing the immediacy of the situation, the Extreme Weather Committee, comprised of representatives from various stakeholders including the City of Winnipeg Office of Emergency Management, first responders, emergency shelters, community organizations, health care providers, government and philanthropic funders, will continue convene when heat warnings trigger to discuss sector resources and plan appropriate responses.

In collaboration with community organizations, the City of Winnipeg is also establishing cooling locations throughout the city during periods of extreme heat. These locations will offer access to water, cooling amenities, and pop-up cooling tents to provide respite from the scorching temperatures and enhance the safety and well-being of its residents, particularly those who may be at higher risk of heat-related illnesses.

Mayor Scott Gillingham stated, "We recognize the urgent need to address the challenges posed by extreme heat, especially for individuals experiencing homelessness. The City of Winnipeg is committed to taking proactive steps to protect the well-being of our vulnerable populations during these challenging weather conditions. By collaborating with community organizations and stakeholders, we aim to provide essential support and resources to those in need."

The extreme heat warning system, implemented by Environment and Climate Change Canada, issues warnings when forecasted temperatures reach 32°C (38°C with humidex) or higher during the day, with overnight lows of no less than 16°C, persisting for two consecutive days. Furthermore, an extended heat warning is declared when these conditions persist for three or more days. It is important to note that even without a formal warning, extreme heat can still pose significant risks to individuals, making proactive measures crucial.

For more information on the emergency response plan and available resources, please visit <https://endhomelessnesswinnipeg.ca/emergency-response/>





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